

Consolidated Laser Ranging Data Format (CRD)

Version 2.00

for the ILRS Prediction Format Study Group
of the ILRS Data Format and Procedures Working Group
SIGNIFICANT CHANGES HIGHLIGHTED IN YELLOW

14 September 2018

Revision History

0. Revision Summary

- v 0.25 12 February 2007 - Initial public release.
- v 0.26 12 March 2007 - Updated based on community input.
- v 0.27 15 November 2007 - Further updated based on community input.

0.1 0.25 – 12 February 2007

- First public release.

0.2 0.26 – 12 March 2007

- Added sample files.
- Added “Common Abbreviations” and “Resources” sections.

0.3 0.27 – 15 November 2007

- Added revision history.
- Added target type to target header H3.
- Added data quality alert to station header H4.
- Refined clock offset fields in the transponder configuration record C4.
- Added "stop number" to ranging record (10).
- Added “origin of values” to meteorological record (20).
- Clarified the use of terms “time-of-flight” and “range”.
- Revised station file naming conventions in Section 5.
- Other changes for consistency or improved readability.

0.4 1.00 – 27 June 2008

- Clarified the handling of free-format character fields.
- Clarified the handling of the unknown stop time in H4 record.
- Explicitly stated that C1 record pulse length is FWHM.
- Changed the units of epoch delay correction in record C3 to microseconds.
- Changed the record 21 Sky Clarity suggested format from integer to floating point.
- Added detector channel to calibration record '40' and normal point record '11'.
- Expanded “data type” in calibration record '40' to handle one- and two-way calibrations.
- Added more sample data sets, including all possible records.
- Added a table showing which records correspond with which data types.
- Noted that 3.0 is being subtracted from kurtosis.
- Explained 'full rate, fire only' files (.frf) for one-way transponders.
- Explained the possibility of using '30' pointing angles as fundamental measurements (3.6.2).
- Converted old section 7 and 8 to appendices A and B and inserted sections 7-9.
- Changed normal point window length (record '11') from integer to floating point.

0.5 1.01 – 27 October 2009

- Various clarifications and cleanup of wording.
- Reflected changes from Errata page.
- Made changes in handling new “Station Epoch Time Scale” values.
- Added reference to EDC on-line format compliance checking.

0.6 2.00 – 14 September 2018

- See Appendix D.

Abstract

Due to technology changes, the previous International Laser Ranging Service (ILRS) formats for exchange of the 3 laser ranging data types – full rate, sampled engineering, and normal point - needed revision. The main technology drivers were the increased use of kilohertz firing-rate lasers, which made the previous full rate data format cumbersome, and the anticipated transponder missions, especially the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter (LRO), for which various field sizes were either too small or non-existent. Rather than patching the existing format, a new flexible format encompassing the 3 data types and anticipated target types was created. The development of the Consolidated laser Ranging Data (CRD) format provided the opportunity to include fields and features that were desired but not available in the old formats. After years of service, the CRD format needed some evolutionary changes to satisfy requests for additional information, which has resulted in version 2 of the format.

Introduction

The purpose of the CRD is to provide a flexible, extensible format for the ILRS full rate, sampled engineering, and normal point data. The primary motivations for creating a new format several years ago were to allow for transponder data, and to handle high-repetition-rate laser data without unnecessary redundancy. This format is based on the same features found in the ILRS Consolidated Prediction Format (CPF), including separate header and data record types assembled in a building block fashion as required for a particular target.

There are 3 separate sections to the CRD data format: 1) the header section which contains data on topics such as station, target, and start time; 2) the configuration section containing an expanded version of data previously described by the System Configuration Indicator (SCI) and System CHange Indicator (SCH) fields; and 3) the data section containing laser transmit and receive times, and other highly dynamic information. The data headers are fixed format and similar in content to those of the CPF files. All records are in free format with spaces between entries. Records can be added as needed for the specific data types and at frequencies commensurate with the data rate. For example, at a 2 kHz ranging rate, meteorological data and pointing angles are commonly read far less frequently than the ranges. Note that one-way out-bound, one-way in-bound, and two-way ranges can all appear within one file. Also note that multiple colors can appear in one file.

Some of the features of the CRD format are as follows;

- Flexibility. The data files can be simple and compact for kilohertz ranging or comprehensive for more complex data structures, as appropriate.

- The building block structure with multiple record types allows for including and omitting certain record types as needed by a station or target.

- Station configuration descriptions are addressed in an explicit, logical and extensible manner.

- A single integrated format can be used for current and future data and target types.

- Multiple color data, multiple ranging modes (transponder one- and two-way ranges) and multiple configurations can be included naturally within a single data file.

- The format can be expanded in the future as needs expand without abandoning the entire format.

- All data types (full rate, sampled engineering, and normal point) can be managed in a single file if desired, e.g., for archival and reference purposes.

- Fields in the Configuration records are compatible with the Satellite Laser Ranging (SLR) Engineering Data File (EDF) format.

There will often be cases where the value of a data record field is either unknown or not applicable. This is especially true when data is converted from an old format to the CRD format, since there will be fields (such as skew and kurtosis) that do not exist in the old format. ***In these cases, unless noted otherwise, numerical fields in the new format should be set to “-1” to indicate “no information”. Character fields without information should be filled with “na” for “Not Available”.***

In the following pages, sections 1 – 3 provide a description and discussion of the specific file sections and record types. Following that, section 4 gives examples of the file structure for various types of data. Section 5 addresses file naming conventions. Section 6 provides some real-world examples of the new format, while section 7 provides information about implementing and testing the CRD format on site. Section 8 is included to provide a quick overview of the new data fields and their use. Appendix A provides web references to formats and “official lists” as well as links to CRD test data sets and

sample code containing format converters and CRD file check programs. Appendix B provides definitions of abbreviations. Appendix C lists the acceptable range of values for the fields in the format, as reflected in the NASA and EDC Operations Centers' data vetting software. These values pertain to Version 1, and will be updated for the new fields as time permits. Finally, Appendix D describes the changes in version 2 (this version) of the CRD format.

1. Header Records

These records are in **FREE FORMAT** (except that the record ID must be in columns 1-2) and rely on white spaces for parsing. **The field sizes (e.g., I5, F12.5) are suggestions; fields should be sized according to the stations' needs.** Upper and lower case characters are both acceptable: e.g., "H1" or "h1"; "CRD" or "crd" in H1. Character fields should be left-justified or sized to fit the string. The field specifiers are based on FORTRAN. Examples of the C equivalents are A3 → %3s; I2 → %2d; F12.5 → %12.5f.

1.1. Format Header

The format header describes information relating to the file: e.g., the version of the format used, time of production, etc.

1.1.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "H1" or "h1")
A3	"CRD" or "crd" (Consolidated Ranging Data format)
I2	Format Version = 2
I4	Year of file production
I2	Month of file production
I2	Day of file production
I2	Hour of file production (UTC)

1.1.2. Notes

There must be one and only one format header record in the file and it (or a "00" comment record) must be the first record. Format version will be 1 for version 1.00 – 1.99, 2 for 2.00-2.99, etc. All changes between n.00 and n.99 must be backward compatible. This means no new fields will be added between existing fields, etc. New fields can be added to the end of a record or additional record types can be added.

1.2. Station Header

The station header describes information relating to the station or site collecting this laser data.

1.2.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "H2" or "h2")
A10	Station name from official list (e.g., "MOB7 ", "MLRS ")
I4	System identifier: Crustal Dynamics Project (CDP) Pad Identifier for SLR
I2	System number: Crustal Dynamics Project (CDP) 2-digit system number for SLR
I2	System occupancy: Crustal Dynamics Project (CDP) 2-digit occupancy sequence number for SLR
I2	Station Epoch Time Scale - indicates the time scale reference. 3 = UTC (USNO) 4 = UTC (GPS) 7 = UTC (BIH) 1-2, 5-6, 8-9 = reserved for compatibility with earlier data using obsolete time scales. 10 and above = UTC (Station Time Scales) USE ONLY WITH ANALYSIS STANDING COMMITTEE (ASC) APPROVAL
A10	Station network (e.g., "ILRS" for SLR/LLR/TLR)

1.2.2. Notes

For station-created files, there must be one and only one station header record in the file and it must be the second record. Data centers may combine files.

Values of the Station Epoch Time Scale other than 3, 4, and 7 on new data will not be understood by the SLR data analysts, and data including them will usually be discarded. Since time scales do evolve, and some experiments require higher accuracies than are available with the current techniques, it is necessary to include the possibility of new values (10-99) that do not conflict with current or obsolete historical values. If you believe there is a compelling reason to use another value (e.g., 10 or above), you **must** propose the new value and explain the reasons to the ILRS Analysis Standing Committee and the ILRS Data Formats and Procedures Standing Committee. If they grant approval, you may use the new value, and it will be documented in this manual.

The Crustal Dynamics Project Pad, site, and occupancy sequence number are often combined into the CDDIS Site Occupancy Designator (SOD) found in the official pad and code list mentioned in the introduction of this document. See <https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/stations/active/index.html> and https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/site_procedures/sod.html for details. For those non-ILRS stations using the CRD format, these fields may be the System/Sensor identifier, System/Sensor number, and Sequence Number, respectively.

The Station Network field must be set to "NA" if no network is specified. Set to "ILRS" for data submitted to the ILRS. Set to other names for debris or other type of tracking.

1.3. Target Header

The target header describes static information relating to the target, whether it is a satellite, lunar or spacecraft target.

1.3.1. Format:

- A2(1-2) Record Type (= "H3" or "h3")
- A10 Target name from official list (e.g., "ajisai", "gps35")
- I7 ILRS Satellite Identifier (Based on the COSPAR ID)
- I4 SIC (Satellite Identification Code) (Provided by ILRS; set to "-1" for non-ILRS targets without a SIC)
- I5 NORAD ID (also known as "Satellite Catalog Number")
- I1 Spacecraft Epoch Time Scale (transponders only)
 - 0=not used
 - 1=UTC
 - 2=Spacecraft Time Scale
- I1 Target class
 - 0=no retroreflector (including debris)
 - 1=passive retroreflector
 - 2=(deprecated - do not use)
 - 3=synchronous transponder
 - 4=asynchronous transponder
 - 5=other
- I2 Target location/dynamics
 - 1=unknown (for use when tracking a transponder using a Version 1 CPF)
 - 0=other
 - 1=Earth orbit
 - 2=lunar orbit
 - 3=lunar surface
 - 4=Mars orbit
 - 5=Mars surface
 - 6=Venus orbit
 - 7=Mercury orbit
 - 8=asteroid orbit
 - 9=asteroid surface
 - 10=solar orbit/transfer orbit (includes fly-by)

1.3.2. Notes

There must be at least one target header (and associated child records) in a file, but there can possibly be more, e.g., for

accumulating normal point data for many targets over a period (e.g., one day), for transmission to data centers.

COSPAR ID to ILRS Satellite Identification Algorithm:

COSPAR ID Format: (YYYY-XXXXA)

YYYY is the four-digit year of when the launch vehicle was put in orbit

XXX is the sequential launch vehicle number for that year

A is the alpha numeric sequence number within a launch

Example: LAGEOS-1 COSPAR ID is **1976-039A**

Explanation: LAGEOS-1 launch vehicle was placed in orbit in 1976; was the 39th launch in that year; and LAGEOS-1 was the first object injected into orbit from this launch.

ILRS Satellite Identification Format: (YYXXXAA), based on the COSPAR ID

YY is the two-digit year of when the launch vehicle was put in orbit

XXX is the sequential launch vehicle number for that year

AA is the numeric sequence number within a launch

Example: LAGEOS-1 ILRS Satellite ID is **7603901**

1.4. Session (Pass/Pass segment) Header

The session/pass header describes information relating to the period over which the data is collected. For many satellite targets, this is generally one pass, but can be associated with pass segments as well. For geostationary satellites and distant targets, the placement of this header must be related to pass segments as defined by the station. It will be necessary to specify that certain parameters or conditions remain constant or static during a session.

The session header is also the place to indicate what type of data records (e.g. normal point) follow. This ensures that data records are provided in blocks of consistent data type rather than allowing sampled engineering, full rate, and normal point records to be randomly intermingled.

Hence, there must be a Session Header preceding each block of data, and there may be more than one Session Header for a given pass or segment if different types of data follow. See section 4.

1.4.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "H4" or "h4")

I2 Data type

0=full rate

1=normal point

2=sampled engineering

I4 Starting Year

I2 Starting Month

I2 Starting Day

I2 Starting Hour (UTC)

I2 Starting Minute (UTC)

I2 Starting Second (UTC)

I4 Ending Year (Set the ending date and time fields to "-1" if not available.)

I2 Ending Month

I2 Ending Day

I2 Ending Hour (UTC)

- I2 Ending Minute (UTC)
- I2 Ending Second (UTC)
- I2 A flag to indicate the data release:
 - 0: first release of data
 - 1: first replacement release of the data
 - 2: second replacement release, etc.
- I1 Tropospheric refraction correction applied indicator
 - 0=False (not applied)
 - 1=True (applied)
- I1 Center of mass correction applied indicator
 - 0=False (not applied)
 - 1=True (applied)
- I1 Receive amplitude correction applied indicator
 - 0=False (not applied)
 - 1=True (applied)
- I1 Station system delay applied indicator
 - 0=False (not applied)
 - 1=True (applied)
- I1 Spacecraft system delay applied (transponders) indicator
 - 0=False (not applied)
 - 1=True (applied)
- I1 Range type indicator
 - 0=no ranges (i.e., transmit time only)
 - 1=one-way ranging
 - 2=two-way ranging
 - 3=receive times only
 - 4=mixed (for real-time data recording, and combination of one- and two-way ranging, e.g., T2L2)

Important: If Range type indicator is **not** set to two-way (2) or mixed (4), all corrections must be written as one-way quantities. Specifically, this applies to range, calibration, refraction correction, center of mass correction, as well as all Root Mean Square (RMS) and other statistical fields. With “mixed”, separate range data (10), normal point (11), and calibration (40) records will be needed for one-way and two-way data.

I1 Data quality alert indicator

- 0=good quality; nominal/uncompromised data
- 1=suspect quality; some concerns that the data has been compromised but is still useful and can be used with caution
- 2=poor or unknown quality; test, experimental or compromised data, not to be used for scientific purposes.

Note: Details of any data degradation can be included in comment (“00”) records.

1.4.2. Notes

For normal point records, stations generating the file must set the center of mass applied and refraction applied flags to false and provide data consistent with these flags. The format, however, allows data to be provided where normal point data has these corrections applied, e.g., for special purpose users or for use by data centers themselves.

Note that several of the indicator fields, such as the refraction and the center of mass correction, have the opposite meaning of corresponding Merit II flags. For instance, in the Merit II full rate format, the center of mass applied flag is set to 0 if the correction is applied. Here, the flag is set to 1 if the correction is applied.

The station system delay applied indicator is normally set to true for normal points.

Ending time may be cumbersome to compute if data is being written directly into the CRD format in real-time. In this case, the ending date and time fields may be filled with “-1”.

1.5. Prediction Header

The prediction record indicates the predictions used for tracking this pass.

1.5.1. Format

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "H5" or "h5")

I2 Prediction type

0=other

1=CPF

2=TLE

I2 Year of century from CPF or TLE

A6 or A12 Date and time:

- CPF starting date and hour (MMDDHH) from "H2" record; or

- TLE epoch day/fractional day from line 1

A3 Prediction provider:

- CPF provider from "H1" record;

- TLE does not include this field, but it should be available

I5 Sequence number:

- CPF ephemeris sequence and sub-daily sequence numbers from H1; or

- TLE revolution number from line 2

1.5.2. Notes:

Two line elements (TLE) are not used for ILRS laser ranging, but are for other techniques. The TLE format can be found at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two-line_element_set

1.6. End of Session (EOS) Footer

1.6.1. Format

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "H8" or "h8")

1.6.2. Notes

Include even if it is immediately followed by the end of file footer.

1.7. End of File (EOF) Footer

1.7.1. Format

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "H9" or "h9")

1.7.2. Notes

If an end-of-file footer is missing, the implication is that the file has been truncated and has therefore been corrupted. One response could be to request a retransmission of the file.

2. Configuration Records

Configuration records will hold static data that represents station specific configuration information used while collecting the data stored in this file. **All fields must be separated by spaces, and white spaces are *not* allowed within record fields.** These records are in **FREE FORMAT** (except that the record ID must be in columns 1-2) and rely on white spaces for parsing. **The field sizes (e.g., I5, F12.5) are suggestions, and should be sized according to the stations' needs. Character strings can be as short as 1 character and as long as 40 characters. Longer strings should be truncated to 40 characters on reading. See example 6.6. The field specifiers are based on FORTRAN. Examples of the C equivalents are A3 → %3s; I2 → %2d; F12.5 → %12.5f.**

While detailed configuration records are strongly encouraged and are a vital part of the CRD format, the minimum requirement is a "C0" record containing the Transmit Wavelength and the System Configuration ID. The previously required "60" record is obsolete and is no longer accepted for new data. Record "C4" is always required for transponder data. Missing configuration records may result in warning messages from the Operations Centers.

The "detail type" field in the configuration records allows for future expansion of the configuration record format. At this time, this field always has the value "0".

2.1. System Configuration Record

The system configuration record provides a means for identifying all significant components of a system in operation during the collection of the data records contained within this file. This record is an extensible list of configuration records of components deemed necessary to characterize the system at any given time during which the data records are collected.

2.1.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "C0" or "c0")
I1	Detail Type (= "0")
F10.3	Transmit Wavelength (nanometers)
A4	System configuration ID (unique within the file)
A4	Component A configuration ID (e.g., laser configuration ID)
A4	Component B configuration ID (e.g., detector configuration ID)
A4	Component C configuration ID (e.g., local timing system configuration ID)
A4	Component D configuration ID (e.g., transponder configuration ID)
A4	Component E configuration ID (e.g., software configuration ID)
A4	Component F configuration ID (e.g., meteorological configuration ID)

Repeat as required.

2.1.2. Notes

The use of configuration records replaces the old Station Configuration Indicator (SCI) and Station CHange indicator (SCH) (but not the station site log) files.

The Transmit Wavelength represents the wavelength of the laser beam as transmitted into the atmosphere and is thus common to many of the station subsystems. Hence it is included explicitly in this record. One advantage of this is that the association of data records to wavelength used is more direct.

The file *must* contain at least one Configuration Header. If there are multiple system configurations used when generating the data records contained within the file for this pass, there should be multiple system Configuration Headers and associated configuration records in the file. See example in 6.4.

2.2. Laser Configuration Record

The file should contain at least one Laser Configuration record. If multiple wavelengths are used or there are significant changes to any of the other parameters within the data sets in the file, then there must be appropriate Laser Configuration records for each wavelength or configuration used.

2.2.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "C1" or "c1")
I1	Detail Type (= "0")
A4	Laser Configuration ID (unique within the file)
A10	Laser Type (e.g., "Nd-Yag")
F10.2	Primary Wavelength (nm)
F10.2	Nominal Fire Rate (Hz)
F10.2	Pulse Energy (mJ): record when this field changes by 10%
F6.1	Pulse Width (FWHM in ps): record when this field changes by 10%
F5.2	Beam Divergence (arcsec)
I4	Number of pulses in outgoing semi-train

2.2.2. Notes

Note that the primary wavelength is used here, e.g., use 1064 for a Nd-Yag laser even though only 532 is used.

Most fields are expected to be static for a given laser. Pulse energy and width should trigger the writing of a new record whenever they change by 10%.

2.3. Detector Configuration Record

The file should contain at least one Detector Configuration record. If multiple wavelengths are used or there are significant changes to any of the other parameters within the data sets in the file, then there must be an appropriate Detector Configuration record for each wavelength or configuration used.

2.3.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "C2" or "c2")
I1	Detail Type (= "0")
A4	Detector Configuration ID (unique within the file)
A10	Detector Type (e.g., "SPAD", "CSPAD", "MCP", "APD", "GeDiode", ...)
F10.3	Applicable Wavelength (nm)
F6.2	Quantum Efficiency at applicable wavelength (%)
F5.1	Applied Voltage (V)
F5.1	Dark Count (kHz)
A10	Output Pulse Type (ECL, TTL, photon-dependent, ...)
F5.1	Output Pulse Width (ps)
F5.2	Spectral Filter (nm)
F5.1	% Transmission of Spectral Filter
F5.1	Spatial Filter (arcsec)

A10 External Signal Processing

F6.1 Amplifier Gain

F6.1 Amplifier Bandwidth (kHz)

I2 Amplifier In Use

-1 = Unknown

0 = No

1 = Yes

2.3.2. Notes

Most fields are expected to be static for a given detector. Spatial and spectral filter changes should be recorded when they change by 10% (for continuously variable filters), or whenever they change (for discrete filters). The field “external signal processing” can refer to a particular technique, algorithm, or software program used.

2.4. Timing System Configuration Record

The file should contain at least one station Timing System Configuration record. If multiple timing systems are used, then there must be an appropriate Timing System Configuration record for each system used.

2.4.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "C3" or "c3")

I1 Detail Type (= "0")

A4 Timing System Configuration ID (unique within the file)

A20 Time Source (e.g., "Truetime_XLi", "Truetime_XL-SD", "Datum_9390", "HP_58503A", "TAC", ...)

A20 Frequency Source (e.g., "Truetime_OCXO", "CS-4000", ...)

A20 Timer (e.g., "MRCS", "SR620", "HP5370B", "Dassault", "Other", ...)

A20 Timer Serial Number (for multiple timers of the same model)

F6.1 Epoch Delay Correction (μ s)

2.4.2. Notes

Most of the fields in this record should effectively be pointers to items in the Site Log file, where associated static data on each device can be found. The epoch delay correction provides a measure of the propagation delay between the Time Source output and the point at which the timing epochs are registered. For example, in some systems, a 1 PPS signal is used to latch second boundaries. However, there must be some correction applied to the transmission delay between the source of the 1 PPS signal and the timer system. The epoch delay correction has been applied to the data, except in the case of transponders, where there is a choice. See record "C4" in section 2.5 below. Note the difference in units.

2.5. Transponder (Clock) Configuration Record

The transponder record describes static information relating to certain transponders.

2.5.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "C4" or "c4")

I1 Detail Type (= "0")

A4 Transponder Configuration ID (unique within the file)

F20.3 Estimated Station UTC Offset (nanoseconds)

F11.2 Estimated Station Oscillator Drift (UTC/station clock) in parts in 10^{15} .

F20.3 Estimated Transponder UTC Offset (nanoseconds)

- F11.2 Estimated Transponder Oscillator Drift (UTC/spacecraft clock) in parts in 10^{15}
- F20.12 Transponder Clock Reference Time (seconds, scaled or unscaled)
- I1 Station clock offset and drift applied indicator
 0=neither offset nor drift applied
 1=only offset applied
 2=only drift applied
 3=both offset and drift applied
- I1 Spacecraft clock offset and drift applied indicator
 0=neither offset nor drift applied
 1=only offset applied
 2=only drift applied
 3=both offset and drift applied
- I1 Spacecraft time simplified
 0=False
 1=True

2.5.2. Notes

Note that standard sense used in all time and frequency metrology must be followed, e.g., local station offset is (UTC – local station).

A transponder configuration record is required only if the target contains a transponder or time transfer equipment.

To convert from spacecraft master clock units and timescale,

$$t_{UTC} = t_{master} + (t_{master} - t_0) * 10^{-15} * \text{Oscillator Drift} + \text{UTC offset},$$

where t_0 is the Transponder Clock Reference Time, the time at which the master clock was calibrated against UTC (somehow), and the UTC offset is (UTC-master) at time t_0 .

For the spacecraft time simplified mode (used for LRO), t_0 has already been removed from t_{master} to allow passing of a much smaller number. The Transponder Clock Reference Time field is filled but only used for reference. The equation then becomes

$$t_{UTC} = t_{master} + (t_{master}) * 10^{-15} * \text{Oscillator Drift} + \text{UTC offset}.$$

The conversion for the station clock is analogous.

A new record should be written whenever a field changes value.

Information here supersedes similar information (i.e., Epoch delay correction) in the timing system configuration record.

2.6. Software Configuration Record

The software record describes software in the measurement path, including data collection and processing programs. Include a program if changing it could potentially change the data quality. Do not use spaces in these fields.

2.6.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "C5" or "c5")

I1 Detail Type (= "0")

A4 Software Configuration ID (unique within the file)

A40 Tracking Software in measurement path (may be more than one program, comma delimited)

A20 Tracking Software Version(s) (comma delimited)

A40 Processing Software in measurement path (may be more than one program, comma delimited)

A20 Processing Software Version(s) (comma delimited)

2.6.2. Notes:

Show each program and version of software in the range measurement/processing data path, including tracking/ranging, meteorological sensor reading, data filtering, data normal pointing, data re-formatting software. This information can help analysts and stations correlate changes in data quality or quantity with changes of software versions. Do not use spaces in these fields.

Example:

C5 0 pgms Monitor,Sattrk 2.000Bm,2.00Cm conpro,crd_cal,PoissonCRD,gnp 2.4a,1.7,2.2a,CM-2.01a

2.7. Meteorological Instrumentation Configuration Record

The Meteorological Instrumentation record describes on-station devices that measure atmospheric pressure, temperature, humidity, and any other measurement path quantities. The information includes manufacturer, model, and serial number.

2.7.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "C6" or "c6")

I1 Detail Type (= "0")

A4 Meteorological Configuration ID (unique within the file)

A10 Pressure Sensor Manufacturer

A10 Pressure Sensor Model

A10 Pressure Sensor Serial Number

A10 Temperature Sensor Manufacturer

A10 Temperature Sensor Model

A10 Temperature Sensor Serial Number

A10 Humidity Sensor Manufacturer

A10 Humidity Sensor Model

A10 Humidity Sensor Serial Number

2.7.2. Notes:

Show each sensor whose data is included in the CRD data file. The same instrument can be given for 1, 2, or 3 of these sensor types, such as the Paroscientific Met4a, which provides pressure, temperature, and humidity. The detail type can be used to describe whether the record contains primary or secondary chain instruments. These entries should correspond to those in the ILRS Site Log. None of the fields may contain spaces.

Example:

C6 0 mets Paroscientific Met4 123456 Paroscientific Met4 123456 Paroscientific Met4 123456

3. Data Records

Data records contain non-static data, hence they all will contain a time-stamp field. **All fields *must* be separated by spaces, and white spaces are *not* allowed within data fields.** These records are in **FREE FORMAT** (except for the record type, which must be in columns 1-2) and rely on white spaces for parsing. **The field sizes for numerics (e.g., I5, F12.5) are suggestions, and should be sized according to the target's needs and the station's precision. Character fields may be as short as 1 character and as long as 40 characters. Longer strings should be truncated to 40 characters on reading. The exception is that the comment record (ID = "00") contents can be up to 80 characters and can contain white spaces.** There will be no unused or undefined fields. See example 6.6. **The field specifiers are based on FORTRAN. Examples of the C equivalents are A3 → %3s; I2 → %2d; F12.5 → %12.5f.**

Data records of the same type must be in chronological order. In other words, all normal point records must be in chronological order; all meteorological records must be in chronological order, etc. Meteorological records, for instance, may be either interleaved with the normal point records or kept together. Times assigned to the calibration ("40") and session ("50") records are at the discretion of the station, although if there are multiple calibration records in a pass, the times should be representative of the time for which they are applicable.

Seconds of day must be given modulo 86400. In other words, seconds of day must wrap around to 0 at the end of day. Using the pass start and stop times from the H4 header, it will be possible to unambiguously determine the day associated with the seconds of day field. To remove any ambiguity, the satellite pass must not be longer than 1 day (which could occur for geostationary satellites).

Several types of data records may need to be interpolated to the time of the range or normal point record by data users. These are the extended range information record ("12"), the meteorological records ("20" and "21"), the pointing angle record ("30"), and, although it is mainly present for documentation, the calibration record ("40"). Some fields (e.g., precipitation type) cannot be interpolated, while most can. Since these record types are present only after one or more of their values have changed "significantly", a 2-point linear interpolation will usually suffice.

3.1. Range Record (Full rate, Sampled Engineering/Quicklook)

The full rate range record contains single-shot measurement data. The file will contain blocks of one or more range records corresponding to a consistent data type (full rate, sampled engineering) and system configuration.

3.1.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "10")
F18.12	Seconds of day (typically to 100 ns precision for SLR/Lunar Laser Ranging (LLR) or 1 picosecond for transponder/time transfer). For transponders and time transfer, station clock correction may be applied.
F18.12	Time-of-flight in seconds (none, one-, or two-way depending on range type indicator); or (for Epoch Event 5) spacecraft receive time in units of the spacecraft master clock, or seconds if "Spacecraft offset and drift applied indicator" is true. Time-of-flight may be corrected for station system delay; receive time may be corrected for spacecraft system delay and/or clock correction.
A4	System configuration ID
II	Epoch Event - indicates the time event reference
	<i>Currently, only 1 and 2 are used for laser ranging data.</i>
	0=ground receive time (at System Reference Point - SRP) (two-way)
	1=spacecraft bounce time (two-way)
	2=ground transmit time (at SRP) (two-way)
	3=spacecraft receive time (one-way)
	4=spacecraft transmit time (one-way)
	5=ground transmit time (at SRP) and spacecraft receive time (one-way)
	6=spacecraft transmit time and ground receive time (at SRP) (one-way)

- I1 Filter flag
 - 0=unknown
 - 1=noise
 - 2=data
- I1 Detector channel
 - 0=not applicable or “all”
 - 1-4 for quadrant
 - 1-n for many channels
- I1 Stop number (in multiple-stop system)
 - 0=not applicable or unknown
 - 1-n=stop number
- I5 Receive Amplitude - a positive linear scale value
- I5 Transmit Amplitude - a positive linear scale value**

3.1.2. Notes

The format allows multiple color data to be included in the same file, with separate normal point statistics, etc.

As noted above, transmit time only, receive time only, one-way, and two-way ranges, etc., can appear in the same file to accommodate transponders.

Note that station transmit and receive times are nominally with respect to the system reference point (SRP), which in many cases is the telescope invariant point. Computing precise transmit and receive times requires a knowledge of both the transmit delay and receive delay, which is critical for transponder ranging. It is less critical for normal satellite (two-way) ranging since errors in distributing the system delay to these components are canceled.

The full rate data file should include a swathe of data around the station-assessed signal. The filter flag is used to record whether the station processing indicates that a return is signal or noise.

If transmit or receive amplitude is not measured, the field should be set to “-1”.

3.2. Range Record (Normal Point)

The normal point range record contains the average epoch and range computed from a filtered set of range data within the specified normal point time window by a normal pointing algorithm. The file contains blocks of one or more range records corresponding to a consistent data type and system configuration.

3.2.1. Format:

- A2(1-2) Record Type (= "11")
- F18.12 Seconds of day (typically to < 100 ns precision for SLR/LLR or < 1 ps for transponders/time transfer). Station clock corrections should be applied for all targets.
- F18.12 Time-of-flight in seconds (none, one-, or two-way depending on range type indicator); or (for Epoch Event = 5) spacecraft receive time in units of the spacecraft master clock, or seconds if “Spacecraft offset and drift applied indicator” is true. Time-of-flight should be corrected for station system delay; receive time may be corrected for spacecraft system delay and/or clock correction.
- A4 System configuration ID
- I1 Epoch Event - indicates the time event reference
 - Currently, only 1 and 2 are used for laser ranging data.*
 - 0=ground receive time (at SRP) (two-way)
 - 1=spacecraft bounce time (two-way)

- 2=ground transmit time (at SRP) (two-way)
- 3=spacecraft receive time (one-way)
- 4=spacecraft transmit time (one-way)
- 5=ground transmit time (at SRP) and spacecraft receive time (one-way)
- 6=spacecraft transmit time and ground receive time (at SRP) (one-way)

- F6.1 Normal point window length (seconds)
- I6 Number of raw ranges (after editing) compressed into the normal point
- F9.1 Bin RMS from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function (ps)
- F7.3 Bin skew from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function
- F7.3 Bin kurtosis from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function
- F9.1 Bin peak – mean value (ps)
- F5.1 Return rate (%)**
- II Detector channel
 - 0=not applicable or “all”
 - 1-4 for quadrant
 - 1-n for many channels

F5.1 Signal to noise ratio (S:N)

3.2.2. Notes

Note that the station transmit and receive times are nominally given with respect to the system reference point (SRP) which, in many cases, is the telescope invariant point. Computing precise transmit and receive times requires a knowledge of both the transmit delay and receive delay and is critical for transponder ranging. It is less critical for normal satellite (two-way) ranging since errors distributing the system delay between transmit and receive time components are canceled.

If there are too few data points to assess pass RMS, skew, or kurtosis, put “-1” in the field. It is left to the station’s discretion, subject to ILRS directives, whether to distribute normal points which have few data points. **Kurtosis calculations should follow the convention in which 3 is subtracted, so that the kurtosis for a normal distribution is 0.**

Detector channel is normally '0' even for multi-channel systems. This field is included for flexibility.

As an example of CRD flexibility, LRO normal points used F28.12 rather than F18.12 as the spacecraft receive time format.

3.3. Range Supplement Record

The range supplement record contains optional range data and is interspersed with range data to which it is associated. If this record is used, then it should be created whenever there is a *significant* change to one or more fields.

3.3.1. Format:

- A2(1-2) Record Type (= "12")
- F18.12 Seconds of day.
- A4 System configuration ID
- F6.1 Tropospheric refraction correction (picoseconds, one-way)
- F6.4 Target center of mass correction (meters, one-way)
- F5.2 Neutral density (ND) filter value
- F8.4 Time bias applied (seconds)
- F20.15 Range rate (seconds/second)**

3.3.2. Notes

None.

3.4. Meteorological Record

This data record contains a minimal set of meteorological data. At least one record must appear in the data file.

3.4.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "20")
F18.12	Seconds of day (typically to 1 millisecond precision).
F7.2	Surface pressure (millibar)
F6.2	Surface temperature in degrees Kelvin
F4.0	Relative humidity at the surface in %
I1	Origin of values
	0=measured values (written whenever a value changes "significantly")
	1=interpolated values applicable at the time (seconds of day) given in this record

3.4.2. Notes

Meteorological records should only be written when one of the fields changes "significantly". As a minimum, a new record should be written whenever pressure changes by 0.1mB, the temperature changes by 0.1 K, or when the humidity changes by 5%. The time (seconds of day) of an interpolated record should match the time in the following normal point record.

Since meteorological records may be submitted in blocks and not interspersed with the normal point or range records, it is recommended that the meteorological records be accumulated and interpolated to the times needed (e.g., times of normal points or full rate records).

3.5. Meteorological Supplement Record

This data record contains an optional supplemental set of meteorological data. A file must contain at least one meteorological record and may contain one or more meteorological supplement records.

3.5.1. Format:

A2(1-2)	Record Type (= "21")
F18.12	Seconds of day (typically to 1 millisecond precision).
F5.1	Wind speed (m/s)
F5.1	Wind direction (degrees azimuth, North is zero)
A5	Weather conditions (two-digit SYNOP/WMO "present weather" code, or "rain", "snow", "fog", "mist", "clear", "na", etc.)
I3	Visibility (km)
F4.2	Sky clarity (i.e., zenith extinction coefficient)
I2	Atmospheric seeing (arcsec)
I2	Cloud cover (%)
F6.2	Sky temperature in degrees Kelvin

3.5.2. Notes

Meteorological records should only be written when one of the fields changes “significantly”. The criteria should be at least 2 times the least significant bit of the sensor, to prevent noise in the lowest bit from constantly producing new records.

Present weather code can be found at <https://www.nodc.noaa.gov/archive/arc0021/0002199/1.1/data/0-data/HTML/WMO-CODE/WMO4677.HTM>. This code is produced by some common meteorological equipment. If such equipment is not available, a single word description, i.e., “fog” can be entered.

3.6. Pointing Angle Record

This record contains telescope or beam director pointing (azimuth and elevation) angles, and is optional for normal point data sets. If it is used, the source and nature of this data must be provided.

3.6.1. Format:

- A2(1-2) Record Type (= "30")
- F18.12 Seconds of day (typically to 1 millisecond precision).
- F8.4 Azimuth in degrees
- F8.4 Elevation in degrees
- I1 Direction flag
 - 0=transmit & receive
 - 1=transmit
 - 2=receive
- I1 Angle origin indicator
 - 0=unknown
 - 1=computed
 - 2=commanded (from predictions)
 - 3=measured (from encoders)
- I1 Refraction corrected
 - 0=False (in vacuo angles, i.e., angles as if there were no atmosphere)
 - 1=True (apparent angles with refraction included)

F10.7 Azimuth Rate in degrees/second

F10.7 Elevation Rate in degrees/second

3.6.2. Notes

Pointing angle records should only be written when one of the angles changes “significantly”. The meaning of “significantly” should be defined by the producers and the users of this data.

The pointing angles seem to be seldom used in practice. In most cases when pointing angles are used in data analysis, it is to cross check that the pass and the station location have been correctly identified. There may be cases where pointing angles are used with or without ranging data as a fundamental data type in precision orbit determination. In these cases, the frequency and care taken in compiling these angle measurements will be much greater. In this case, it is also possible that the pointing angle records will be needed with normal points.

If azimuth and elevation are not known, do not include this record. If azimuth rate or elevation rate are unknown, set them to -1.

3.7. Calibration Record

The calibration record contains statistics of accepted calibration measurements. It may be associated with calibrations at the

station or the target (i.e., for transponders). A CRD file can contain as many calibration detail records (“41”) as required (one pre- and one post-calibration are expected for SLR/LLR), but there must be exactly one station calibration (“40”) record for each SLR/LLR pass segment in the file. There can also be calibration records to represent several “types of data”. For a transponder, for which all fires must be recorded as well as returns, there should be type 0 (normal ranging) and 1 (station transmit).

Stated another way, for each SLR/LLR pass segment (session), there should be 1) two calibration detail records (“41”), one with the pre-calibration information, and one with post-calibration information.

Each record will include:

- the average (filtered) calibration value and
- the corresponding averaged seconds-of-day;

and

2) one overall calibration record (type “40”) with:

- the AVERAGE of the pre-calibration and post-calibration values, and
- the seconds-of-day AT THE MIDDLE OF THE PASS SEGMENT.

Pre-calibrations should be taken no earlier than two hours before the pass segment and post-calibrations should be taken no later than two hours after the pass segment, making sure that the time difference between pre- and post-calibration is no longer than two hours. Larger spans are discouraged, but, if used, care must be taken that the calibration value is accurate. If the time difference between pre- and post-calibration values is larger than an interval the station finds acceptable, the stations must submit only the pre-calibration or post-calibration result, whichever is judged to be more reasonable (probably the one closer in time to the data). *If, under unusual circumstances, either the pre- or post-calibration was not taken, the calibration that was taken can be submitted in the “40” record and “41” record.* Real time calibrations will be handled with a single “40” record..

See examples in 6.5 and 6.7.

3.7.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "40")

F18.12 Seconds of day (typically to < 100 ns precision for SLR/LLR, or <1 ps for transponder ranging). Station clock corrections should be applied for all targets. **This should be the time at the middle of the pass segment.**

I1 Type of data

0=station combined transmit and receive calibration (“normal” SLR/LLR)

1=station transmit calibration (e.g., one-way ranging to transponders)

2=station receive calibration

3=target combined transmit and receive calibrations

4=target transmit calibration

5=target receive calibration

A4 System configuration ID

I8 Number of data points recorded (= -1 if no information)

I8 Number of data points used (= -1 if no information)

F7.3 One-way target distance (meters, nominal) (= -1 if no information)

F10.1 Calibration System Delay (picoseconds)

F8.1 Calibration Delay Shift - a measure of calibration stability (picoseconds)

F6.1 RMS of raw system delay (ps). If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two RMS values, or the RMS of the combined data set.

F7.3 Skew of raw system delay values from the mean. If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two skew values, or the skew of the combined data set.

F7.3 Kurtosis of raw system delay values from the mean. If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two kurtosis values, or the kurtosis of the combined data set.

F6.1 System delay peak – mean value (ps). If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two peak-mean values, or the peak-mean of the combined data set.

I1 Calibration Type Indicator

0=not used or undefined

1=nominal (from once off assessment)

2=external calibrations

3=internal calibrations – telescope

4=internal calibrations – building

5=burst calibrations

6=other

I1 Calibration Shift Type Indicator

0=not used or undefined

1=nominal (from once off assessment)

2=pre- to post- Shift

3=minimum to maximum

4=other

I1 Detector Channel

0=not applicable or “all”

1-4 for quadrant

1-n for many channels

I1 Calibration Span

0 = not applicable (e.g. Calibration type indicator is “nominal”)

1 = Pre-calibration only

2 = Post-calibration only

3 = Combined (pre- and post-calibrations or multiple)

4 = Real-time calibration (data taken while ranging to a satellite)

F5.1 Return Rate (%)

3.7.2. Notes

“Nominal” calibrations are intended for generally low accuracy systems that do not have access to high precision system delay measurements, but rather depend on fairly static and infrequent assessments of the system delay. For example, use “nominal” calibrations for engineering data while a station is being developed, or for other special purposes.

Kurtosis calculations should follow the convention in which 3 is subtracted, so that the kurtosis of a normal distribution is 0.

Two external calibration values are specified, since the term has historically been used with two different meanings.

“Telescope” means that the calibration target is attach to the telescope. This implies that calibrations can be taken at virtual any telescope orientation. This can also permit “real time” calibration during a satellite pass,. “Building” means that the calibration target is in a fixed position in the telescope dome or shelter and not attached to the telescope. It is basically an external calibration target move indoors.

It is expected that one calibration record is included for a normal point data block, i.e., for an entire pass or a pass segment (any data preceded by an “H4” session header and closed by an “H8” session footer).

3.8. Calibration Detail Record

The calibration detail record contains statistics of accepted calibration measurements for pre- or post-calibration. There must be at least two "41" detail records if the "calibration span" in the "40" calibration record is "3" (combined). It may be associated with calibrations at the station or the target (i.e., for transponders). The file can contain as many detail calibration records as required, but there must be one station calibration ("40") record for each pass segment. Each calibration record is applicable to the subsequent block(s) of range records. There can also be calibration records to represent several "types of data". For a transponder, for which all fires must be recorded as well as returns, there should be type 0 (normal ranging) and 1 (station transmit).

3.8.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "41")

F18.12 Seconds of day (typically to < 100 ns precision for SLR/LLR, or <1 ps for transponder ranging). Station clock corrections should be applied for all targets. This should be the average of the time of each filtered calibration measurement.

I1 Type of data

0=station combined transmit and receive calibration ("normal" SLR/LLR)

1=station transmit calibration (e.g., one-way ranging to transponders)

2=station receive calibration

3=target combined transmit and receive calibrations

4=target transmit calibration

5=target receive calibration

A4 System configuration ID

I8 Number of data points recorded (= -1 if no information)

I8 Number of data points used (= -1 if no information)

F7.3 One-way target distance (meters, nominal) (= -1 if no information)

F10.1 Calibration System Delay (picoseconds)

F8.1 Calibration Delay Shift - a measure of calibration stability (picoseconds)

F6.1 RMS of raw system delay (ps). If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two RMS values, or the RMS of the combined data set.

F7.3 Skew of raw system delay values from the mean. If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two skew values, or the skew of the combined data set.

F7.3 Kurtosis of raw system delay values from the mean. If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two kurtosis values, or the kurtosis of the combined data set.

F6.1 System delay peak – mean value (ps). If pre- and post- pass calibrations are made, use the mean of the two peak-mean values, or the peak-mean of the combined data set.

I1 Calibration Type Indicator

0=not used or undefined

1=nominal (from once off assessment)

2=external calibrations

3=internal calibrations – telescope

4=internal calibrations – building

5=burst calibrations

6=other

I1 Calibration Shift Type Indicator

0=not used or undefined

1=nominal (from once off assessment)

2=pre- to post- Shift

3=minimum to maximum

4=other

I1 Detector Channel

0=not applicable or "all"

1-4 for quadrant

1-n for many channels

I1 Calibration Span

-1 = not applicable (e.g. Calibration type indicator is "nominal")

1 = Pre-calibration only

2 = Post-calibration only

3 = DO NOT USE

4 = DO NOT USE

5 = One of multiple calibrations (see below)

F5.1 Return Rate (%)

3.8.2. Notes

"Nominal" calibrations are intended for generally low accuracy systems that do not have access to high precision system delay measurements, but rather depend on fairly static and infrequent assessments of the system delay. For example, use "nominal" calibrations for engineering data while a station is being developed, or for other special purposes.

Kurtosis calculations should follow the convention in which 3 is subtracted, so that the kurtosis of a normal distribution is 0.

Two "external calibration" values are specified for the Calibration Type Indicator, since the term has historically been used with two different meanings. "Telescope" means that the calibration target (e.g., a corner cube) is attached to the telescope. This implies that calibrations can be taken at virtual any telescope orientation. This can also permit "real time" calibration during a satellite pass. "Building" means that the calibration target is in a fixed position in the telescope dome or shelter and not attached to the telescope. It is essentially an external calibration target moved indoors.

It is expected that two calibration detail records are included for an SLR/LLR normal point data block (i.e., a pass segment) when the "41" Calibration Record's Calibration span is set to "3" (combined).

Use calibration span = 5 ("one of multiple") only if a non-linear fit of more than two calibration sessions is used to create the "40" calibration record. This is non-standard usage.

3.9. Session (Pass) Statistics Record

The session (pass) statistics record contains averaged statistics derived from measurements taken during the session (or over the duration of a pass). The file contains blocks of one or more range records corresponding to a consistent format. One session statistics record should be associated with each of these data blocks.

3.9.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "50")

- A4 System configuration ID
- F6.1 Session RMS from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function (ps)
- F7.3 Session skewness from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function
- F7.3 Session kurtosis from the mean of raw accepted time-of-flight values minus the trend function
- F6.1 Session peak – mean value (ps)
- I1 Data quality assessment indicator. For SLR and LLR data:
 - 0=undefined or no comment
 - 1=clear, easily filtered data, with little or no noise
 - 2= clear data with some noise; filtering is slightly compromised by noise level
 - 3=clear data with a significant amount of noise, or weak data with little noise. Data are certainly present, but filtering is difficult.
 - 4=unclear data; data appear marginally to be present, but are very difficult to separate from noise during filtering. Signal to noise ratio can be less than 1:1.
 - 5=no data apparent

3.9.2. Notes

This record is only required in combination with a number of normal point records. It is optional with full rate or engineering data records.

Kurtosis calculations should follow the convention in which 3 is subtracted, so that the kurtosis of a normal distribution is 0.

3.10. Compatibility Record

THIS RECORD IS OBSOLETE. The SCH and SCI have been replaced in the Station Change History File:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/site_procedures/configuration_files.html.

This record is provided ONLY to allow reformatting of old data from the ILRS normal point and full rate data to this format, without losing existing data.

3.10.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "60")

A4 System configuration ID

I1 System CHange indicator (SCH)

A flag that is incremented for every major change to the system (hardware or software). After the value '9', return to '0', and then continue incrementing. The station and the data centers should keep a log in a standard format containing the flag value, the date of the change, and a description of the change.

I1 System Configuration Indicator (SCI)

A flag used to indicate alternative modes of operation for a system (e.g., choice of alternative timers or detectors, or use of a different mode of operation for high satellites). Each value of the flag indicates a particular configuration, which is described in a log file held at the station and the data centers. If only a single configuration is used, use a fixed value. If a new configuration is introduced, use the next higher flag value. If the value exceeds '9', then return to '0', which overwrites a previous configuration flag (it is not likely that a station will have 10 current possible configurations).

3.10.2. Notes

None.

3.11. User Defined Record

This record is provided to allow special interest users or groups to add non-standard data records. Other users must be able

to ignore such records (if they exist in a file) without any impact. Record types outside this range will be reserved for future standard format use.

3.11.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "9X", X = 0...9)

3-80 User defined format

3.11.2. Notes

These records should normally be stripped from the file before being sent to the operation center.

3.12. Comment Record

Comment records are optional, and allow users to insert comments or notes as deemed necessary and appropriate. This especially pertains to any data quality issues designated in the header H4.

3.12.1. Format:

A2(1-2) Record Type (= "00")

A80 Free format ASCII comments (terminated by an end-of-line character)

3.12.2. Notes

To ensure line lengths do not become excessive, a limit of 80 characters is set. Assume that any lines exceeding this limit will be truncated. Multiple comment lines are encouraged. Comment lines can occur anywhere within a file.

4. Record Structure

The records as defined have the potential for storing a complex mix of data types while maintaining the ability to separate them into the component data files later (e.g., different laser color data, full rate and normal point, or multiple passes for the same or different stations). The data in a CRD file is designed to be stored in a normalized database and/or expressed in the XML language. The definitions of the records have kept this in mind.

It is important that, unless totally unavoidable, data records are not repeated, as this has the potential for undermining the requirement for unambiguous and consistent data. It is also efficient in terms of file sizing and storage.

The following table shows the permissible combination of records by data type. Normally, files will contain only one data type - full rate, sampled engineering, or normal point. However, the format does allow combining these files as separate blocks within a data file. See example 6.5. Another way to do this for a single pass is to start with a common h1/h2/h3 record set. The first h4 through h8 block can contain full rate data, for instance. The second h4 through h8 block can contain sampled engineering, and the third such block can contain the normal points. This is possible because the h4 record contains the date type for the data following (through h8).

Record	Full Rate	Sampled Engineering n/r	Normal Point
Header Section			
H1 – Format	√	√	√
H2 – Station	√	√	√
H3 – Target	√	√	√
H4 – Session (Pass)	√	√	√
H5 – Prediction	recommended	recommended	recommended
H8 – EOS	√	√	√
H9 – EOF	√	√	√
Configuration Section			
C0 – System Configuration	√	√	√
C1 – Laser Configuration	recommended	recommended	recommended
C2 – Detector Configuration	recommended	recommended	recommended
C3 – Timing Configuration	recommended	recommended	recommended
C4 - Transponder Configuration	√ transponders; n/a for other targets	√ transponders; n/a for other targets	√ transponders; n/a for other targets
C5 – Software Configuration	recommended	recommended	recommended
C6 – Met Instrument Configuration	recommended	recommended	recommended
Data Section			
10 – Range	√	√	not allowed
11 – Normal point	not allowed	not allowed	√
12 – Range Supplement	as available	as available	as available
20 – Meteorological	√	√	√
21 – Meteorological Supplement	as available	as available	as available
30 – Pointing Angles	√	√	n/r (usually)
40 – Calibration Statistics	n/r	n/r	√

41 – Calibration Detail Statistics	n/r	n/r	√
50 – Session Statistics	n/r	n/r	√
60 – Compatibility	obsolete	obsolete	obsolete
9x – User Defined	usually not transmitted	usually not transmitted	usually not transmitted
00 – Comments	as needed	as needed	as needed

n/a = not applicable or not appropriate

n/r = not required

√ = required

Consider a number of cases. The first is a simple case where the station is performing basic satellite tracking and is creating full rate and normal point files. In practice, this will probably represent the majority of files most of the time, at least for the present.

A more complex case is when a station is performing two-color ranging and wants to store both full rate and normal point data in the same file, or when a site is publishing full rate data from experiments in time transfer using a transponder as the target.

4.1. Case 1

A file can contain either full rate or normal point data for one or more targets over a certain time period (for example, one day). This is typical for normal point (.npt) and full rate (.frd) files generated at many stations. (Comment records are not considered here.) As can be seen from the sample data in section 6, there can be some legitimate variations in record sequence.

Full rate file for one target, and a single system configuration.

Format Header

Station Header

Target Header

Laser Configuration Record

Detector Configuration Record

Timing System Configuration Record

System Configuration Record

Calibration Record

 Session Header

 Calibration Record (if required)

 Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

 Data Record (Full rate) (repeated)

 Calibration Record / Pointing Record / Meteorological Record (as required)

 Data Record (Full rate) (repeated)

 Calibration Record (if required)

 Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

 End of session header

 Session Header

Calibration Record (if required)
 Pointing Record / Meteorological Record
 Data Record (Full rate) (repeated)
 Calibration Record / Pointing Record / Meteorological Record (as required)
 Data Record (Full rate) (repeated)
 Calibration Record (if required)
 Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

End of session Header
 (as many session as required)

End of file header

Normal point file for many targets, single system configuration.

Format Header
 Station Header
 Laser Configuration Record
 Detector Configuration Record
 Timing System Configuration Record

System Configuration Record
 Calibration Record
 Target Header

Session Header
 Calibration Record (if required)
 Meteorological Record
 Data record (normal point) (repeated)
 Meteorological Record
 Data record (normal point) (repeated)
 Meteorological Record
 Pass Record

End of session header
 other sessions for this target as required

Target Header
 Repeat as above for as many targets as required
 End of session header

End of file header

This corresponds to files having a record sequence such as

H1 H2 C0 C1 C2 C3 40 H3 H4 20 30 40 10 10...20 10 10...30 10 10...40...10 10 20 H8 H4 20 30 40 10 10 10...20 10
 10...30 10 10...40...10 10 20 H8 H4...H8...H9

and

H1 H2 C0 C1 C2 C3 40 H3 H4 40 20 11 11 11...20 11 11...20.12 H8 H4 40 20 11 11 11...20 12 H8 H3 H4 40 20 11 11
11...20 11 11...20 12 H8 H4 40 20 11 11 11...20 12 H8...H8...H9

4.2. Case 2

One file contains full rate and normal point data for one target for one period (for example, one day) from a station performing two-color (or any other dual configuration) ranging.

Full rate and normal point file for one target, two system configurations.

Format Header

Station Header

Target Header

Laser Configuration L1 Record

Laser Configuration L2 Record

Detector Configuration D1 Record

Detector Configuration D2 Record

Timing System Configuration (TS) Record

System Configuration S1 Record (L1-D1-TS)

System Configuration S2 Record (L2-D2-TS), or whatever is appropriate

Calibration (system S1) Record C1

Calibration (system S2) Record C2, or whatever is appropriate.

Session Header (full rate)

Calibration Records C1 and/or C2 (if required)

Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

Data Record for S1 (Full rate) (repeated)

Data Record for S2 (Full rate) (repeated)

Calibration Records / Pointing Record / Meteorological Record (as required)

Data Records for S1 (Full rate) (repeated)

Data Records for S2 (Full rate) (repeated)

Calibration Records (if required)

Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

End of session Header

Session Header (normal point)

Meteorological Record

Data Record for S1 and/or S2 (normal point) (repeated)

Meteorological Record

Data Record for S1 and/or S2 (normal point) (repeated)

Meteorological Record

End of session Header

Session Header (full rate)

.... (Repeat as above for as many sessions as required)

End of session Header

End of file header

This corresponds to files having a record sequence such as

H1 H2 H3 C0 C0 C1 C1 C2 C2 C3 H4 20 30 40 40 10 10 10 10...20 10 10 10 10...30 10 10 10 10...40...10 10 20 H8 H4 20
11 11 11 11...20 11 11 11 11...11 11 11 11...11 11 20 H8 H4 20 30 40 40 10 10 10 10...20 10 10 10 10...30 10 10 10
10...40...10 10 20 H8 H4 20 11 11 11 11...20 11 11 11 11...11 11 11 11...11 11 20 H8...H8 H9.

4.3. Case 3

One file contains full rate data for one target from a station performing experiments in time transfer via a transponder in association with another station.

Full rate file for one target, two system configurations.

Format Header

Station Header

Target Header

Laser Configuration Record

Detector Configuration Record

Timing System Configuration Record

Transponder Configuration Record

System Configuration Record

Calibration Record (Site)

Calibration Record (Target)

Session Header (Full rate)

Calibration Record (Site) (if required)

Calibration Record (Target) (if required)

Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

Data Record (Full rate, time-of-flight and transmit epoch) (repeated)

Data Record (Full rate, receive epoch only) (repeated)

Pointing Record / Meteorological Record

End of session Header

End of file header

4.4. Case 4

In this case, several full rate or normal point sessions from one station are sent in a single file from the station to a data center. There are two ways of doing this:

4.4.1. Preferred method

H1 H2 H3 H4 ... H8

 H3 H4 ... H8

...

 H3 H4 ... H8 H9

This ordering is more hierarchical and more compatible with parsing into XML.

4.4.2. Acceptable, but not preferred, method

H1 H2 H3 H4 ... H8

H1 H2 H3 H4 ... H8

...

H1 H2 H3 H4 ... H8 H9

This ordering is syntactically correct, and may be easier to implement when converting data in the old format to CRD.

5. File Naming

Since the proposed data format is so flexible and a file can contain many data types and cover any period of time, file naming becomes a real issue. Therefore the following conventions have been adopted.

1. File names and file naming conventions do not form the basis for file processing except for files that have well defined and specific file extensions (such as .Z for extraction purposes). File processing will require files to be opened and parsed to determine what operations, if any, are to be performed.
2. File names ending in “.npt”, “.frd”, or “.qlk” contain single data types, but possibly multiple satellites and stations.
3. File names ending in “.crd” may contain multiple data types.
4. File names ending in “.frf” contain all the laser fire times and do not contain valid time-of-flights or receive times. This is for one-way transponder missions such as LRO. (For LRO-LR, the .frf files from ground stations comply with this rule, but the matched up .frf files after processing do contain laser fire times, time-of-flights, and receive times. These matched-up files, or some of them, from the 5-year LRO-LR operation have been delivered to CDDIS.)
5. Files are delivered to specific file repositories, in which it has been agreed and understood that certain file operations will be performed. Hence the onus is on the supplier to provide the appropriate type of file to the repository.
6. Published files will always have a unique file name. (This pertains to station naming conventions.)
7. Release versions are maintained within the data file headers for every pass or session. Station file names will echo this release number (if it is consistent within the file), but data center file names will not - those files will always contain the latest data release.

5.1. Station Naming Convention

This naming convention is for use with files transmitted from the station to the operations centers (unless there is a prior agreement for another protocol).

5.1.1 Single Pass and Data Type

5.1.1.1 Ftp or Scp

File names for ftp or scp transfer should be

```
ssss_satname_crd_yyyymmdd_hh[MM]_rr.typ
```

where

- ssss is the CDP Pad Identifier (station number)
- satname is from a standard ILRS list of spacecraft (lower case)
- yyyymmdd is the starting date of the pass (UTC) from the H4 header
- hh is the hour when the pass or pass segment begins (UTC time scale)
- MM is the minute when the pass or pass segment begins (optional, from the H4 header)
- rr is the release number (initial release = "00")
- typ is the data type:
 - frd – full rate data,
 - qlk – sampled engineering ("quicklook") data,
 - npt – normal point data,
 - crd – mixed or unspecified file contents, or

frf – full rate data with fire times only.

Geostationary satellite "passes" can be submitted in several files, depending on the tracking schedules. Files may contain the “.Z”, “.z”, “.gz”, or “.zip” extension indicating a particular type of file compression.

5.1.1.2 E-mail Transmission

For e-mail submission, this filename should be part of the “Subject” field

Subject: npt data ssss_satellite_crd_yyyymmdd_hh_rr

5.1.2 Several Passes or Data Types

To submit several normal point, sampled engineering, full rate files or a combination of files at once, there are two recommended procedures. Note that these procedures can be used for ftp/scp transfers, not email.

5.1.2.1 Combined File

Send a single combined ASCII file. The description of a combined file name is:

ssss_[satname_]crd_yyyy[mm[dd[_hh]]]_rr.typ

where the fields are the same as above, and the brackets “[]” enclose fields that can be omitted depending on the file contents. Note that the station is always included, since the file comes from a single station. A split program (available in the sample code) will be required at the operation centers to break this file into its component files.

Examples:

7080_crd_20071012_14_00.npt - normal points for several passes from different satellites, starting at a particular hour
7080_lageos1_crd_200206_99.crd - LAGEOS-1 data for a month, with mixed releases
7080_crd_2003_99.frd - full rate data for a year, with mixed releases

Notes:

- 1) This can cover mass resubmissions of data with a single (new) revision level.
- 2) When there are more than one revision level in a file, the release number should be "99".
- 3) In the case where several data types are mixed in a file, the type can be "crd".

5.1.2.2 Tar or Zipped File

'Zip' or 'tar' together several files into a larger file with an appropriate name:

ssss_crd_yyyy[mm[dd[_hh[MM]]]]_rr.com,

where

satname has been omitted,

mm is the minute, which has been added to permit more than one transmission in an hour, and

com is the compression program extension:

zip, or

tgz.

Examples:

7080_crd_2005_01.zip - an update to some 2005 data files
7090_crd_20071012_1500_00.tgz - a typical hourly transfer

5.1.3 Debris and other non-ILRS Tracking File Names

Non-ILRS tracking file names will be the same as above EXCEPT that they will start with the tracking network name. This addition will also prevent debris data from being accepted into the SLR data network.

networkname_ssss_satname_crd_yyyymmdd_hh_rr.xxx,

where

networkname is a debris or other non-ILRS tracking network. Examples could be “WPDEB”, “EURDEB”. The network names are not yet defined, but some name must be included.

5.2. Data Center Naming Convention

Data centers (e.g. Crustal Dynamics Data Information System (CDDIS) and the European Data Center (EDC)) will use these file names at their ftp and web sites. These are the file names the users will see when retrieving data for their analysis work. Each file will contain only one type of data.

satname_yyyymmddhh.typ (hourly)
satname_yyyymmdd.typ (daily)
satname_yyyymm.typ (monthly)
satname_yyyy.typ

where

- satname is from a standard ILRS list of spacecrafts,
- yyyy is the four-digit year,
- mm is the two-digit month,
- dd is the two-digit day,
- hh is the two-digit hour, and
- typ is
 - frd – full rate data,
 - qlk – sampled engineering data,
 - npt – normal point data.

Examples: starlette_2006091011.frd
lro_200810.npt

Files may contain the “.Z” or “.z” extension indicating the file compression.

6. Sample Files

This section includes passes and parts of passes represented in the CRD format. Note that record lengths were kept short by using “%.xf” C language formats for most floating point fields.

6.1. Full rate

Filename: 7080_lageos2_crd_20061113_15_00.frd

```
H1 CRD 2 2007 3 20 14
H2 MLRS 7080 24 19 4 NASA
H3 LAGEOS2 9207002 5986 22195 0 1 1
H4 0 2006 11 13 15 23 52 2006 11 13 15 45 35 1 1 1 1 0 0 2 0
C0 0 532.000 std1
...
10 55432.0414338 0.047960587856 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
12 55432.0414338 std1 20735.0 1601.0000 0.00 0.0000 0.0000
20 55432.0414338 801.80 28.21 39 0
30 55432.0414338 297.2990 38.6340 0 2 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
40 55432.0414338 0 std1 -1 -1 0.000 -913.0 0.0 56.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 3 3 0 4
-1.0
10 55435.6429746 0.047926839980 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
12 55435.6429746 std1 20697.0 1601.0000 0.00 0.0000 0.0000
30 55435.6429746 297.4480 38.7190 0 2 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
...
10 56735.8021609 0.046094881873 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
12 56735.8021609 std1 18092.0 1601.0000 0.00 0.0000 0.0000
30 56735.8021609 15.2330 45.7100 0 2 1
H8
H9
```

6.2. Normal Point

File name: 7080_lageos2_crd_20061113_15_00.npt

```
H1 CRD 2 2007 3 20 14
H2 MLRS 7080 24 19 4 NASA
H3 LAGEOS2 9207002 5986 22195 0 1 1
H4 1 2006 11 13 15 25 4 2006 11 13 15 44 40 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
C0 0 532.000 std1
...
11 55504.9728030 0.047379676080 std1 2 120 18 94.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 55504.9728030 801.80 282.10 39 1
40 55504.9728030 0 std1 -1 -1 0.000 -913.0 0.0 56.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 3 3 0 4
-1.0
11 55988.9809589 0.044893190432 std1 2 120 19 83.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 55988.9809589 801.50 282.80 39 1
11 56141.8467215 0.044635017248 std1 2 120 28 66.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 56223.2817254 0.044605221903 std1 2 120 25 87.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 56223.2817254 801.50 282.60 39 1
11 56373.5463612 0.044746486398 std1 2 120 25 78.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 56373.5463612 801.50 282.10 39 1
11 56439.9749454 0.044889147842 std1 2 120 25 99.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 56565.2288146 0.045288773098 std1 2 120 25 92.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 56680.8785419 0.045804632570 std1 2 120 10 55.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 56680.8785419 801.50 282.00 39 1
50 std1 86.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0
H8
H9
```

6.3. Sampled Engineering (Quicklook)

File name: 7080_lageos2_crd_20061113_15_00.qlk

```
H1 CRD 2 2007 3 20 14
H2 MLRS 7080 24 19 4 NASA
H3 LAGEOS2 9207002 5986 22195 0 1 1
H4 2 2006 11 13 15 24 17 2006 11 13 15 44 59 0 0 0 0 0 2 0
C0 0 532.000 std1
...
10 55457.0521861 0.047753624332 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
20 55457.0521861 801.80 282.10 39 0
30 55457.0521861 298.3470 39.2230 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 55482.4631214 0.047552685849 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
30 55482.4631214 299.4370 39.8100 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
...
10 56589.0390552 0.045383653062 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
20 56589.0390552 801.50 282.00 39 0
30 56589.0390552 6.7380 47.9120 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 56623.4538362 0.045531247776 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
30 56623.4538362 8.8120 47.4510 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 56657.6685552 0.045690091816 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
30 56657.6685552 10.8230 46.9570 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 56699.7866762 0.045901952309 std1 2 0 0 0 0 0
30 56699.7866762 13.2310 46.3060 0 0 0 0.0000000 0.0000000
50 std1 86.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0
H8
H9
```

6.4. Sample 2-Color Normal Point file

File Name: 7810_lageos1_crd_20061230_07_00.npt

```
H1 CRD 2 2007 3 20 14
H2 ZIMMERWALD 7810 68 1 7 EUROLAS
H3 LAGEOS1 7603901 1155 8820 0 1 1
H4 1 2006 12 30 7 35 34 2006 12 30 8 12 29 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
C0 0 846.000 std1
...
C0 0 423.000 std2
...
11 27334.1080890 0.051571851861 std1 2 120 36 154.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 27334.1080890 923.30 275.40 43 1
40 27334.1080890 0 std1 -1 -1 0.000 113069.0 0.0 138.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 2 2 0
1 -1.0
11 27343.5080895 0.051405458691 std2 2 120 28 79.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 27372.6080888 0.050895050517 std2 2 120 30 76.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 27373.1080893 0.050886342010 std1 2 120 17 158.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 28003.8080894 0.042252027043 std1 2 120 19 170.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 28003.8080894 923.40 275.50 42 1
11 28008.7080899 0.042208378233 std2 2 120 85 71.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 28402.1080897 0.040251470202 std1 2 120 6 183.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 28406.5080897 0.040247878310 std2 2 120 45 78.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 28620.0080896 0.040574433849 std1 2 120 18 163.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 28620.0080896 923.50 275.50 42 1
11 28627.6080899 0.040603966534 std2 2 120 114 71.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29151.2080895 0.045287136931 std2 2 120 7 65.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29156.7080892 0.045360524908 std1 2 120 7 134.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
20 29156.7080892 923.50 275.80 42 1
11 29225.6080889 0.046314735294 std1 2 120 45 164.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29237.7080892 0.046488750878 std2 2 120 50 78.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29326.8080894 0.047825380133 std1 2 120 49 152.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29334.2080895 0.047940570614 std2 2 120 73 85.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29461.4080892 0.050011219353 std2 2 120 29 76.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
```

```

11 29477.2080896 0.050279566397 std1 2 120 25 187.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29544.4080897 0.051445695153 std1 2 120 19 164.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
11 29549.5080897 0.051535764981 std2 2 120 14 87.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0.0 0 0.0
50 std1 165.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0
50 std2 78.0 -1.000 -1.000 -1.0 0
H8
H9

```

6.5. Sample showing all current record types

```

00 This is a recent MLRS normal point file.
00 Plausible '21' records have been added
00 Part of the full rate file has been added, so keep reading.
h1 CRD 2 2008 3 25 1
h2 MDOL 7080 24 19 4 NASA
h3 jason1 105501 4378 26997 0 1 1
h4 1 2008 3 25 0 45 17 2008 3 25 0 55 9 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
h5 1 08 032500 esa 8401
c0 0 532.000 std m11 mcp mt1 swv met
c1 0 m11 Nd-Yag 1064.00 10.00 100.00 200.0 -1.00 1
c2 0 mcp mcp 532.000 -1.00 3800.0 0.0 unknown -1.0 0.00 -1.0 0.0 none 5 10 1
c3 0 mt1 TAC TAC MLRS CMOS TMRB TD811 na 445.9
c5 0 swv Monitor, Satttrk 2.000Bm, 2.00Cm conpro, crd_cal, PoissonCRD, gnp 2.4a, 1.7, 2.2a, CM-2.01a
c6 0 met Paroscientific Met4 123456 Paroscientific Met4 123456 Paroscientific Met4 123456
40 2716.0000000 0 std 67 58 -1.000 -883.3 0.0 96.4 0.718 -0.126 364.4 3 3 0
20 2716.000 801.73 286.76 35. 0
21 2716.000 3.1 45 none 20 -1 3 10 300.12
11 2726.697640514675 0.013737698432 std 2 15 1 72.7 1.494 -0.536 -32.4 0.67 0 20.7
11 2804.507921286791 0.011496837034 std 2 15 1 72.7 1.494 -0.536 -32.4 0.67 0 20.6
11 2810.908760187949 0.011334723870 std 2 15 16 65.4 1.229 -1.235 -33.5 10.67 0 85.6
20 2822.000 801.73 286.56 35. 0
11 2828.611102554046 0.010908518342 std 2 15 1 72.7 1.494 -0.536 -32.4 0.67 0 20.1
11 2850.814029348448 0.010424908601 std 2 15 3 116.6 0.649 -2.333 -86.7 2.00 0 40.1
11 3104.347543373788 0.010760099652 std 2 15 2 108.7 0.354 -2.750 -73.5 1.33 0 21.3
11 3113.248715491056 0.010963708963 std 2 15 11 78.5 1.345 -0.730 -45.8 7.33 0 62.3
11 3124.950255557618 0.011244819341 std 2 15 14 65.2 1.635 0.207 4.5 9.33 0 71.5
11 3142.652594816107 0.011696747487 std 2 15 12 74.2 1.369 -0.535 -161.6 8.00 0 68.9
11 3150.653650787761 0.011910674436 std 2 15 2 123.0 0.354 -2.750 -83.7 1.33 0 30.6
20 3151.000 801.73 286.16 35. 0
21 3152.000 2 80 fog 20 -1 3 10 298.43
11 3169.356124039857 0.012431881802 std 2 15 1 72.7 1.494 -0.536 -32.4 0.67 0 20.4
50 std 72.7 1.494 -0.536 -32.4 0
h8
00 Note that there is no h9 "end of file" record after the "h8",
00 so this is a different part of the same file.
00
00 The following is part of the full-rate file from the same pass.
00 '21' records have been added to this example.
00 Even though this is not transponder data, a c4 record has been dummied.
00 The 'mcl' clock field id for the c4 record was added to the c0 record.
00 The file also contains 91, 92, and 93 records, which are user-defined.
00 Station-defined records will normally be stripped off by the station before transmittal.
00 Just bypass them as you do not know the format.
00 The analysts can also add their own 9x records if they wish.
h1 CRD 1 2008 3 25 1
h2 MDOL 7080 24 19 4
h3 jason1 105501 4378 26997 0 1 1
h4 0 2008 3 25 0 45 17 2008 3 25 0 55 9 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
c0 0 532.000 std m11 mcp mt1 mcl
c1 0 m11 Nd-Yag 1064.00 10.00 100.00 200.0 -1.00 1
c2 0 mcp mcp_varamp 532.000 -1.00 3800.0 0.0 unknown -1.0 0.00 -1.0 0.0 none 5 10 1
c3 0 mt1 TAC TAC MLRS CMOS TMRB TD811 na 445.9
c4 0 mcl 0.000 0.00 1234567890123456.789 0.00 0.000000000000 0 0 0
91 8 85 2640 -2438728.97 -4909741.31 5429800.07 1474.0965 -5367.5721 -4187.1144 2
20 2716.000 801.73 286.76 35. 0
21 2716.000 3.1 45 none 20 -1 3 10 290.45
40 2716.0000000 0 std 67 58 -1.000 -883.3 0.0 96.4 0.718 -0.126 364.4 3 3 0 3 14.5
41 1016.0000000 0 std 37 28 -1.000 -883.2 0.0 96.2 0.715 -0.125 364.3 3 3 0 1 15.5
41 4416.0000000 0 std 30 30 -1.000 -883.4 0.0 96.6 0.721 -0.127 364.4 3 3 0 2 13.7
30 2717.996 326.8923 32.9177 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
12 2717.9964890 std 0.0 0.0000 0.00 0.0000 0.0000
30 2725.897 326.6035 33.9991 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000

```

```

10 2726.697640514675 0.013737698432 std 2 2 0 0 0 0
30 2734.998 326.2469 35.2830 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 2738.899248614531 0.013359440021 std 2 1 0 0 0 0
30 2742.799 325.9195 36.4168 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
30 2752.100 325.4955 37.8239 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
10 2752.100991800282 0.012962363200 std 2 1 0 0 0 0
30 2762.002 324.9939 39.3585 0 1 1 0.0000000 0.0000000
...
21 3309.000 2 80 fog 20 -1 3 10
30 3309.224 164.3231 22.4342 0 1 1
10 3309.224609210523 0.016974823000 std 2 1 0 0 0 0
93 3309.224609210523 std 0.000 16.660 -20.265 0.97511 -0.00099 -2416.305 35267.021
92 3309.000 -0.0003 0.0003
h8
h9

```

6.6. Sample demonstrating free format

The following data was written by two different programs, showing how field spacing and length can differ in each section.

File 1:

```

h1 CRD 2 2008 5 8 19
h2 MDOL 7080 24 19 4 NASA
h3 giovea 505101 7001 28922 0 1 1
h4 1 2008 5 8 9 40 23 2008 5 8 9 50 45 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
c0 0 532.000 std m11 mcp_with_amp mt1
c1 0 m11 Nd-Yag 1064.00 10.00 100.00 200.0 -1.00 1
c2 0 mcp_with_amp mcp_and_avantek_amp 532.000 -1.00 3800.0 0.0 unknown -1.0 0.00 -1.0 0.0 none 5 10 0
c3 0 mt1 TAC TAC MLRS_CMOS_TMRB_TD811 na 439.45
40 34823.000 0 std 398 190 -1.000 402.3 0.0 131.1 0.168 -0.130 494.4 3 3 0 4 -1.0
20 34823.000 796.55 287.86 24. 0
11 34945.620986680762 0.167738944021 std 2 300 116 193.32 1.821 0.904 -22.8 3.87 0 40.5
11 35237.103254500325 0.167288847260 std 2 300 143 173.04 1.601 -0.009 -61.3 4.77 0 38.5
11 35422.490473700898 0.167002428581 std 2 300 19 179.75 1.318 -0.974 -259.7 0.63 0 3.2
50 std 178.8 1.711 0.451 -128.2 0
h8
h9

```

File 2:

```

h1 CRD 1 2008 5 8 19
h2 MDOL 7080 24 19 4 NASA
h3 giovea 505101 7001 28922 0 1 1
h4 1 2008 5 8 9 40 23 2008 5 8 9 50 45 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
c0 0 532.000 std m11 mcp mt1
c1 0 m11 Nd-Yag 1064.00 10.00 100.00 200.0 -1.00 1
c2 0 mcp mcp 532.000 -1.0 3800.0 0.0 unknown -1.0 0.00 -1.0 0.00 none 5 10 0
c3 0 mt1 TAC TAC MLRS_CMOS_TMRB_TD811 na 439.4
40 34823.000000 0 std 398 190 -1.000 402.3 0.0 131.1 0.168 -0.130 494.4 3 3 0
4 1.0
20 34823.000 796.55 287.86 24. 0
11 34945.620986680762 0.167738944021 std 2 300 116 193.3 1.821 0.904 -22.8 3.87 0 40.3
11 35237.103254500325 0.167288847260 std 2 300 143 173.0 1.601 -0.009 -61.3 4.77 0 35.3
11 35422.490473700898 0.167002428581 std 2 300 19 179.7 1.318 -0.974 -259.7 0.63 0 2.5
50 std 178.8 1.711 0.451 -128.2 0
h8
h9

```

6.7. Sample demonstrating data blocks

During data validation, several stations provided data in which meteorological and calibration records were grouped by record type. While not originally anticipated in the format design, it is not precluded, either. This variation in the format highlighted the need to properly interpolate records of a different epoch from the range or normal point records.

```

H1 CRD 01 2009 5 10 7
H2 HERL 7840 35 01 04 EUROLAS
H3 Ajisai 8606101 1500 16908 0 1 1
H4 1 2009 5 10 5 29 2 2009 5 10 5 34 48 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0
C0 0 532.080 ES 10hz SPD5 GPS NA
C1 0 10hz Nd-Yag 1064.16 10.00 20.00 100.0 20.00 4
C2 0 SPD5 SPAD5 532.000 20.00 0.0 0.0 +0.7v 0.0 0.15 20.0 0.0 Single_fot -1 -1 0
C3 0 GPS Radiocode_GPS_8000 Radiocode_GPS_8000 HxET=_3x_dassault No_Sn 0.0
20 19560.960 1015.20 277.50 99. 0
20 19923.840 1015.23 277.70 98. 0
20 20096.640 1015.24 277.80 98. 0
20 20459.520 1015.23 278.10 98. 0
40 19185.120 0 ES -1 -1 122.977 105423.9 0.0 35.4 0.2 2.8 0.0 2 2 0 3
-1.0
41 18014.400 0 ES -1 -1 122.977 105420.9 0.0 35.4 0.2 2.9 0.0 2 2 0 1
-1.0
41 20355.840 0 ES -1 -1 122.977 105426.9 0.0 35.4 0.1 2.7 0.0 2 2 0 2
-1.0
11 19755.5635353 0.015411425559 ES 2 30.0 42 217.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 5.4 0 0.0
11 19786.3810075 0.014973907243 ES 2 30.0 56 213.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 7.3 0 0.0
11 19813.6766125 0.014664455551 ES 2 30.0 87 213.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 11.3 0 0.0
11 19844.4141312 0.014410182562 ES 2 30.0 66 218.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 8.6 0 0.0
11 19871.9499495 0.014271511355 ES 2 30.0 70 208.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 9.1 0 0.0
11 19903.0875582 0.014219515428 ES 2 30.0 27 248.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 3.5 0 0.0
11 19939.9086510 0.014303031023 ES 2 30.0 36 213.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 4.7 0 0.0
11 19966.0837316 0.014456622851 ES 2 30.0 48 234.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 6.2 0 0.0
11 19993.1391490 0.014694794599 ES 2 30.0 56 208.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 7.3 0 0.0
11 20025.6374106 0.015082008815 ES 2 30.0 46 194.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 6.0 0 0.0
11 20053.0926792 0.015489205740 ES 2 30.0 59 185.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 7.6 0 0.0
11 20080.3882364 0.015960679555 ES 2 30.0 24 189.0 0.000 0.000 0.0 3.1 0 0.0
H8
H9

```

6.8. Sample Transponder Configuration Segment

The previous examples were converted from existing data files. For new data where configuration information is available while forming the CDR, the following could replace or supplement the C0 for MLRS tracking a lunar transponder. (The values are not necessarily realistic.)

One-way (detector not used):

```

C0 0 532.0 std1 las1 tim1 lro
C1 0 las1 Nd-Yag 1064.0 10.0 100 200 20 1
C3 0 tim1 TAC na MLRS na 0
C4 0 lro 100 5 325 8 12345678 1 0 1

```

Two-way:

```

C0 0 532.0 std1 slrd las1 tim1 lro
C1 0 las1 Nd-Yag 1064.0 10.0 100 200 20 1
C2 0 slrd MCP 532.0 8 1300 1 TTL 10 1.0 50 10 none 10 20 -1
C3 0 tim1 TAC na MLRS na 0
C4 0 lro 100 5 325 8 12345678 1 0 1

```

7. Implementation Procedure

When the CRD format was introduced, implementation at the ranging station involved several steps. This discussion is mainly of historical value, although some of the choices made, e.g., whether to use sample code, and the procedure for testing data format changes, could be re-considered when there is an update to the CRD format. The methods of implementation should be considered for new or renovated laser stations to determine at what place in the data flow the format should first be implemented.

- Choosing where to make changes in the station software to write the CRD format files (7.1)
- Making the changes (7.2)
- Testing the changes on site (7.2, 7.3)
- Submitting the old and CRD formatted data in parallel for testing (7.3)
- Discontinuing the old formats (7.3)

These issues and more are addressed below.

7.1. Methods of implementation

There are several approaches that can be taken to implement the CRD format at a laser ranging station. Briefly they are as follows.

- 1) Record ranging data in the CRD format. Then the CRD format becomes the native format for the entire data system. This implies a great deal of work and the best chance to include all the new fields in the data. The difficulty of modifying and testing real-time ranging software may make this approach prohibitive. If the acquisition data format already has all the needed fields and precision for the CRD format, this approach is probably not necessary.
- 2) After ranging, convert the acquisition data files to the CRD format and proceed with calibration, filtering, normal pointing, and the like, using the CRD format as the native format. This takes less work than option 1), and insures that most or all of the new format features are incorporated in a natural way. As an example, this is the path chosen for MLRS. The reductions software suite was not written from scratch, but the read and write code in each was replaced with corresponding CRD routines, and some hitherto separate lunar and satellite laser ranging programs were consolidated into single programs.
- 3) Take old format normal points, full rate, etc. from the filtering and normal pointing system on site and convert to CRD-formatted file. Programs to convert old formats to the CRD format already exist in the sample code suite. This is quick and easy, but fails to take advantage of the new features of the format.
- 4) Some stations may use intermediate files or databases during data processing that already include all the desired new fields and extended precision. For these stations, conversion to the CRD format may be as simple as creating a new back-end formatter that writes data in the CRD format rather than the old distribution format.

7.2. Software resources

As with the CPF implementation, there is a suite of sample code that can help the CRD format conversion. This software is supplied "as is," and there are no guarantees associated with it. The software has been tested with a limited amount of data, and there may still be errors and incomplete implementation of the CRD standards. This software is meant to be a starting place for those implementing and managing ranging data in the CRD format. Any bug corrections or software enhancements are welcomed by the authors.

The CRD sample software can be broken into several groups.

- 1) Code common to many applications
directory: common_c ('C' version)
directory: crd_rw_c
read_crd.c - read and parse CRD records

write_crd.c - write CRD records
getfield.c - read undelimited data fields from a string

2) Code common to many applications

directory: common_f ('FORTRAN' version)
read_crdf.f - read and parse CRD records
write_crdf.f - write CRD records

3) CRD file checkers ('C' only).

directory: crd_chk_c
crd_chk.c - check CRD file for errors
crd_cstg_np_cmp - compare CRD and CSTG normal points from a single pass
crd_merit_fr_cmp - compare CRD and MERIT II full rate data from a single pass

4) Various conversion utilities between CRD and older SLR/LLR formats ('C' only).

directory: crd_conv_slr_c
crd_to_cstg_np.c - CRD normal points to old normal point format
crd_to_cstg_ql.c - CRD sampled engineering to old
sampled engineering format
crd_to_merit.c - CRD full rate to old full rate format
cstg_to_crd.c - Old normal point and sampled engineering
to CRD format
merit_to_crd.c - Old full rate to CRD format
read_cstg.c - Read old normal point and sampled engineering
records
read_merit.c - Read old full rate records
write_cstg.c - Write old normal point and sampled engineering
records
write_merit.c - Write old full rate records

5) Various conversion utilities from old lunar format to CRD ('C' only).

directory: crd_conv_llr_c
cldr_to_crd.c - Old COSPAR lunar to CRD format
read_llr.c - Read old lunar format records
cospar_llr.h - Header file with old lunar format information

6) Various CRD file split, merge, sort, and miscellaneous routines.

directory: crd_split_c
crd_split.c - Split multi-pass and multi-data-type file
into separate files using station naming
convention
frd_strip.c - Strip out station-dependent (9x) records and
remove some white space from CRD full rate file
merge_crd_daily.c - merge single pass normal point, quicklook, and
full rate files into single day files.

7) Various header and include files

directory: include ('C' and FORTRAN versions)
crd.h - Header file with CRD information ('C')
crd.inc - Header file with CRD information (FORTRAN)
cstg.h - Header file with old normal point and
sampled engineering information
merit.h - Header file with old full rate format
information

To compile this code on a Linux system, just type
./make.sh

on the command line.

In selected directories there are scripts to test the program using supplied data. Data files ending in ".ref" are the reference (or "correct") output from the conversion programs. To run the tests and automatically compared results, type

```
./test.sh
```

in each of these directories. Any differences between the test and reference data files will be shown. Differences in dates in H1 records are normal, as they reflect the time of file creation.

7.3. CRD file testing procedures

Once software had been converted to produce CRD-formatted data files, the CRD files were tested for compliance with the CRD format and consistency with the old format data. Three tools in the sample code suite helped. The first is `crd_chk`, which checks the CRD data file (full rate, sampled engineering, or normal point) for compliance with the format. This generates a report for each file, breaking down the header information into easily readable lines. Some error messages show data fields that are out of compliance. Other error messages deal with issues such as out-of-sequence records, missing fields in records, and so forth. A tally of all record types is also provided.

`Crd_chk` will remain useful to test any changes to CRD file production. An updated version for CRD V2 is included in the sample code. The other programs referred to above, `crd_cstg_np_cmp` and `crd_merit_fr_cmp`, were useful for comparing CRD files with their older counterparts. They are not longer needed.

8. Notes on new data fields

8.1. Advantages to analysts

While the introduction to this document contains a list of advantages of the CRD over previous formats, what follows is a list of advantages the analysts will be most interested in.

1. Skew, kurtosis, and peak-mean are data fields that have been requested over the years but have not been available in the data set. This should allow analysis of over-filtering and anomalous data distributions.
2. The CRD format is capable of handling multi-channel, multi-stop, multi-color systems. Although the old formats could handle multiple color data, they could not be integrated into one normal point file. Multi-channel and multi-stop data is not explicitly recognized in the old formats.
3. Standard satellite, transponder, and lunar data can be fully represented in one format.
4. Using free-format data records means that the number of significant digits can be increased to the accuracy required by some missions without requiring all targets to carry additional digits.
5. Most station configuration information can now be embedded with the data. This can help with keeping track of station configurations at a finer granularity than the current SCH and SCI values. This will only help if stations use the new configuration section and if values are current. This is an area that many analysts will not be interested in, but the data is readily available for those who are.
6. The all-in-one, building-block nature of the format should make processing full rate and other special formats easier, if they are needed. Also, full rate files will be smaller than with the Merit II format.
7. Future enhancements to the format should not require starting over again.

8.2. Record-by-record Information

8.2.1. Headers

H1 – format header

- Date of file production (as distinct from release number in H4) tells when the current file was created (by the station, or the operation centers merge or split programs, etc.). This can help verify that the latest file is available.

H2 – station header

- The station name may be more recognizable than the pad ID.

H3 – target header

- All 3 commonly used satellite IDs are included.
- Spacecraft epoch time scale is available for transponders.
- Target type (passive satellite, passive lunar, transponder, mixed, etc.) allows sending data to the right processing steps for the target.

H4 – session header

- A flag tells whether this is full rate, normal point or sampled engineering data. This starts a data block for a particular station, satellite, and time span which ends with the next H8 record.
- Provides many of the fields in the Merit II format – but watch the sense of the flags.
- Indicates whether this is one- or two- way ranging, etc., information that is needed for processing decisions.
- Data quality alerts give some sense as to whether the data should be used in critical applications.

H5 – prediction information

- Helps the analysts and others correlate return rate, etc., with particular predictions used.

H8 – end of session/pass

H9 – end of file

8.2.2. Configuration

C0 – system configuration

- Provides wavelength and pointers to related configuration information for this wavelength.

C1 – laser configuration

- Various information including fire rate, pulse width, divergence, and number of pulses.
- These can all be of interest in analysis.

- For example, does the pulse width match the RMS of the calibrations and data?

C2 – detector configuration

- Contains detector and amplifier information, such as detector type, quantum efficiency, spectral and spatial filters.
- The data biases and corrections may depend on the detector type, e.g., whether the detector is a cspad or mcp.
- Is the change of signal processing algorithm the reason for changes to this station's biases?

C3 – timing system configuration

- Is a new station bias correlated with changes to any of these pieces of equipment?

C4 – transponder/clock configuration

- This record is needed for transponder analysis, when the spacecraft and ground station data need to be merged, and both are running on separate clocks.

C5 – software configuration

- A software version change may correlate with a change in station data quality.

C6 – Meteorological Instrumentation

- Change in instrumentation may correlate with a change in station bias.

8.2.3. Data

10 – range record

- Variable precision in seconds-of-day and the return field allows for increased precision for transponders.
- Epoch event tells how to interpret time-of-flight/receive time field, and allows for transponder data.
- Detector channel and stop number show where the data comes from. Each channel can have a separate bias.

11 - normal point

- Again, epoch event tells how to interpret time-of-flight/receive time field, and allows for transponder data.
- Normal point window length gives the length in seconds, for those targets that require variable normal point lengths (lunar, satellites with highly elliptical orbits).
- Skew, kurtosis and peak-mean can show anomalies in the data distribution that would indicate hardware or processing problems. Since lasers do not produce Gaussian distributions, a skew that is unusually symmetrical can indicate over-filtering.
- Return rate can give some sense of system performance, tempered by sky conditions.

12 - range supplement

- Nothing new except the time bias.

20 – meteorological record

- Origin of values specifies where the values came from (measured or interpolated value).

21 - meteorological supplement record

- This contains various ancillary data that can correlate with the return rate.

40 – calibration record

- Can include target system delays (transponder).
- Number of fires and points used can indicate quality of calibration results.
- Skew, kurtosis, and peak-mean are also included here.

41 – calibration detail record

- Can include target system delays (transponder).
- Number of fires and points used can indicate quality of calibration results.
- Skew, kurtosis, and peak-mean are also included here.

50 – session (pass) statistics record

- Provides skew, kurtosis, and peak-mean for the entire pass.

60 – compatibility record

- OBSOLETE. Configuration records and Station Change History Log contain information previously contained in this record.

9x – user defined records

- Not applicable. The analysts will normally not see these.

00 – comment record

- If the station considers data suspect, or if there is anything unusual that is not covered in the configuration records, this record type can provide an explanation. It should be kept with the data by the OCs and DCs.

9. Conclusion

The CRD format offers a number of improvements over the former, separate normal point, sampled engineering, and full rate data formats. What stimulated the development of the new format was the need for extended fire time precision and additional fields for transponder missions, such as LRO, and the need for reduced size for full rate data from high-repetition-rate laser systems. In order to satisfy these needs, to add functionality not previously seen, and to make provision for additional revisions in the future, the formats were redesigned and combined into a single format. The CRD format has features in common with the Consolidated Predictions Format (CPF) introduced earlier. The files are separated into header records, data records, and, for the CRD format, configuration records. Each of these 3 sections has some records that are needed only for specific missions types or station capabilities, allowing a great deal of versatility. Care was taken to make the format compatible with the Engineering Data Format (EDF), and was developed with XML in mind.

The format was developed and maintained under the auspices of the ILRS Data Formats and Procedures Standing Committee. The authors would like to recognize the active participation and many contributions from the members of the DF&P SC and the world-wide laser ranging community, and the support of NASA and Electro Optic Systems Pty Limited.

Appendix A: Web Resources

The official list of satellite names can be found at:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/missions/satellite_names.html .

Satellite numerical identifiers can be found at:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/missions/satellite_missions/current_missions/index.html .

The official list of station names can be found in the “Code” column at:

<https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/stations/active/index.html> .

The official list of station monument (pad) numbers and codes can be found at:

<https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/stations/active/index.html> .

Find information on site files at:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/network/site_procedures/site_logs.html .

Find formats for the pre-CRD data formats at:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/data_and_products/data/npt/npt_format.html .

and

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/data_and_products/formats/frv3_format.html .

The latest official version of this document, CRD Sample Code, errata, and data can be found at:

https://ilrs.cddis.eosdis.nasa.gov/data_and_products/formats/crd.html .

Appendix B: Common Abbreviations

ASC	Analysis Standing Committee; the committee of the official ILRS data analysts.
CRD	Consolidated laser Ranging Data Format
COSPAR	Committee on Space Research, a Committee of ICSU, the International Council for Science.
CPF	Consolidated laser ranging Prediction Format
DF&PSC	Data Formats and Procedures Standing Committee; the ILRS group is responsible for this and other formats.
FWHM	Full width at Half Maximum, relating to pulse width
ILRS	International Laser Ranging Service
LLR	Lunar Laser Ranging
LRO	Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter
ND	Neutral Density, which describes the opacity of a broadband optical filter.
NORAD	The North American Aerospace Defense Command
ns	nanoseconds
ps	picoseconds
RMS	Root Mean Square. Same as the standard deviation.
SLR	Satellite Laser Ranging
SCH	Station Change Indicator
SCI	Station Configuration Indicator
SIC	Satellite Identification Code, a 4-digit satellite descriptor created and maintained by the ILRS.
SRP	System Reference Point, usually described as the first non-moving point in the telescope light path.
TLR	Transponder Laser Ranging
μ s	microseconds
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time, formerly known as Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).
XML	eXtensible Markup Language.

Appendix C: Limits for CRD Fields

This pertains to v 1 of the CRD format. New V 2 fields will be added by the OCs as time permits.

Record Type	Record Name	Field Name	CRD Format Specification	New Spec	Error Type	Notes
H1	Format Header	H1	“H1” or “h1”	“H1” or “h1”	Error	
H1	Format Header	CRD	“CRD” or “crd”	“CRD” or “crd”	Error	
H1	Format Header	Format Version	1	[0 (warning),1,...99]	Error	
H1	Format Header	Year of file production		[1950,...,2100]	Error	
H1	Format Header	Month of file production		[1,...,12]	Error	
H1	Format Header	Day of file production		[1,...,31]	Error	
H1	Format Header	Hour of file production (UTC)		[0,...23]	Error	
H1	Format Header	Other H1 Check	One and only one H1 Record Must Exist	One and only one H1 Record Must Exist	Error	
H1	Format Header	Other H1 Check		Date of file production must be valid	Error	
H1	Format Header	Other H1 Check		Date/time of file production must be before current time (recommended check against system time)	Error	
H1	Format Header	Other H1 Check	Fixed Format	Wrong pattern of record (spaces at wrong positions) or record length not exact 23 characters	Error	
H2	Station Header	H2	“H2” or “h2”	“H2” or “h2”	Error	
H2	Station Header	Station name from official list		Station name exists on official list	Error	
H2	Station Header	Crustal Dynamics Project 4-Digit Pad Identifier				
H2	Station Header	Crustal Dynamics Project 2-digit system number				
H2	Station Header	Crustal Dynamics Project 2-digit occupancy sequence number				
H2	Station Header	Station Epoch Time Scale – indicated the time scale reference	[0,1,...]	[3,4,7] others need advanced authorization	Error	

H2	Station Header	Other H2 Check	One and only one H2 Record Must Exist	One and only one H2 Record Must Exist	Error	
H2	Station Header	Other H2 Check		Station name and pad ID must be from the same station		
H2	Station Header	Other H2 Check		CDP and station occupancy numbers exist in station lists	Error	
H2	Station Header	Other H2 Check	Fixed Format	Wrong pattern of record (spaces at wrong positions) or record length not exact 27 characters	Error	
H3	Target Header	H3	“H3” or “h3”	“H3” or “h3”	Error	
H3	Target Header	Target name from official list		Target name must be found on official target name	Error	
H3	Target Header	Target name from official list		Target name should be in lowercase and right justified	Warning	
H3	Target Header	Target name from official list		Target Information must be correct/SIC must fit to satellite name	Error	
H3	Target Header	ILRS Satellite Identifier (Based on COSPAR ID)		Satellite Identifier must be found in ILRS	Error	
H3	Target Header	SIC		Target SIC must be found on official target SIC	Error	
H3	Target Header	SIC		SIC must fit to satellite name	Error	
H3	Target Header	NORAD ID		NORAD ID must be found on official target NORAD ID based in ILRS ID or -1	Error	CDDIS wants to ensure that all data is correct. If the IDs don't match, it'll be an error. If this causes problems, the standard can be revised.
H3	Target Header	NORAD ID		NORAD id must fit to satellite name	Error	
H3	Target Header	Spacecraft Epoch Time Scale	[0,1,2]	[0,1,2]	Error	
H3	Target Header	Target type	[1,2,3,4]	[1,...,4]	Error	
H3	Target Header	Other H3 Check	One and only one H3 Record Must Exist	Only one H3 Record Must Exist	Error	
H3	Target Header	Other H3 Check		Target type must be found on official target type based on ILRS ID	Error	

H3	Target Header	Other H3 Check		If Target Type ==3 or ==4 Transponder Configuration C4 Record Required	Error	
H3	Target Header	Other H3 Check	Fixed Format	Wrong pattern of record (spaces at wrong positions) or record length not exact 40 characters	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	H4	“H4” or “h4”	“H4” or “h4”	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Data Type	[0,1,2]	[0,1,2,3 (time transfer),4 (visual)]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Data Type		Data type !=1 for normal points (11 record)	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Data Type		Data type !=0 for fullrate data (10 record)	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Year		[1950,...,2100]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Month		[1,...,12]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Day		[1,...,31]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Hour		[0,...,23]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Minute		[0,...,59]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Starting Second		[0,...,59]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Year	-1 Accepted	[-1, 1950,...,2100]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Month	-1 Accepted	[-1, 1,...,12]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Day	-1 Accepted	[-1, 1,...,31]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Hour	-1 Accepted	[-1, 0,...,23]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Minute	-1 Accepted	[-1, 0,...,59]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Ending Second	-1 Accepted	[-1, 0,...,59]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	A flag to indicate the data release	[0, 1, 2,...]	[0,...,99]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Tropospheric refraction correction applied indicator	[0,1]	[0,1]; if set to 1, a record 12 must exist	Error	

H4	Session (Pass) Header	Center of mass correction applied indicator	[0,1]	[0,1]; if set to 1, a record 12 must exist	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Received amplitude correction applied indicator	[0,1]	[0,1]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Station system delay applied indicator	[0,1]	[0,1]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Spacecraft system delay applied (transponders) indicator	[0,1]	[0,1]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Range type indicator	[0,1,2,3,4]	[0,1,2,3,4]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Data quality alert indicator	[0,1,2]	[0,1,2]	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check	One and only one H4 Record Must Exist	Only one H4 Record Must Exist	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check		Starting date must be valid (e.g. not June 31st)	Error	
H4	Format Header	Other H4 Check		Start date/time must be before current time (recommended check against system time)	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check		Ending date must be valid	Error	
H4	Format Header	Other H4 Check		End date/time must be before current time (recommended check against system time)	Error	
H4	Format Header	Other H4 Check		End date/time must be after start date/time	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check	Fixed Format	Wrong pattern of record (spaces at wrong positions) or record length not exact 62 characters	Error	
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check		End Year - Start Year must be ≤ 1 , (iff end year $\neq -1$)		
H4	Session (Pass) Header	Other H4 Check		Duration must be less than one day (MJD or unix or whatever)		
H8	End of Session Footer	H8	“H8” or “h8”	“H8” or “h8”	Error	
H8	End of Session Footer	Other H8 Check		Must contain H8 before H9	Error	

H8	End of Session Footer	Other H8 Check		One and only one H8 Record Must Exist in single pass file	Error	
H8	End of Session Footer	Other H8 Check		Must have same number of H4 and H8 records		
H9	End of File Footer	H9	“H9” or “h9”	“H9” or “h9”	Error	
H9	End of File Footer	Other H9 Check	One and only one H9 Record Must Exist	One and only one H9 Record Must Exist at the end of file	Error	
C0	System Configuration	C0	“C0” or “c0”	“C0” or “c0”	Error	
C0	System Configuration	Detail Type	0	0	Error	
C0	System Configuration	Transmit Wavelength (nm)		[354, 423, 532, 694, 847, 1064] with any decimal value permitted	Error	List based on JCET and EDC lists of values seen in data.
C0	System Configuration			C0 record Transmit Wavelength <= C1 Primary Wavelength		
C0	System Configuration			C0 record Transmit Wavelength <= C2 Applicable Wavelength		
C0	System Configuration	System Configuration ID				
C0	System Configuration	Component A configuration ID				
C0	System Configuration	Component B configuration ID				
C0	System Configuration	Component C configuration ID				
C0	System Configuration	Component D configuration ID				
C0	System Configuration	Other C0 Check		The record length must be at least 4 characters	Error	
C1	Laser Configuration	C1	“C1” or “c1”	“C1” or “c1”	Error	
C1	Laser Configuration	Detail Type	0	0	Error	
C1	Laser Configuration	Laser Configuration ID		Laser configuration id match C0 record Component A configuration id	Warning	
C1	Laser Configuration	Laser Type				

C1	Laser Configuration	Primary wavelength (nm)		[354, 423, 532, 694, 847, 1064, 2000] with any decimal value permitted	Error	List based on JCET and EDC lists of values seen in data. Note that 2000 is included here and not under transmit wavelength.
C1	Laser Configuration	Nominal Fire Rate (Hz)		[-1,0,1,...10000] or not in [> 0] (n.a. -1)	Warning	
C1	Laser Configuration	Pulse Energy (mJ)		[-1,0,1,...1000] or not in [> 0] (n.a. -1)	Warning	
C1	Laser Configuration	Pulse Width (FWHM in ps)		[-1,0,1,...10000] or not in [> 0] (n.a. -1)	Warning	
C1	Laser Configuration	Beam Divergence (arcsec)		[-1,0,1,...40] or not in [> 0] (n.a. -1)	Warning	Two stations consistently provide a beam divergence >80; should the QC accommodate that or should the stations be asked to adjust?
C1	Laser Configuration	Number of pulses in outgoing semi-train		[-1,0,1,...1000] or not in [> 0] (n.a. -1)	Warning	
C1	Laser Configuration	Other		The record length must contain 10 fields	Error	
C2	Detector Configuration	C2	“C2” or “c2”	“C2” or “c2”	Error	
C2	Detector Configuration	Detail Type	0	0	Error	
C2	Detector Configuration	Detector Configuration ID		Detector Configuration ID match C0 record Component B configuration id	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Detector Type				
C2	Detector Configuration	Applicable wavelength (nm)		[354, 423, 532, 694, 847, 1064] with any decimal value permitted	Error	List based on JCET and EDC lists of values seen in data.
C2	Detector Configuration	Quantum efficiency at applicable wavelength (%)		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Applied voltage (V)		[-1.e4,...,1e4]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Dark Count (kHz)		[-1,...,1e3]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Output pulse type				

C2	Detector Configuration	Output pulse width (ps)		[-1,...,1e6]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Spectral Filter (nm)		[-1,...,1064]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	% Transmission of Spectral Filter		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	Spatial Filter (arcsec)		[-1,...,3600]	Warning	
C2	Detector Configuration	External Signal processing				
C2	Detector Configuration	Other		The record length must contain 14 fields	Error	Only catches lunar data from Matera
C3	Timing Configuration	C3	“C3” or “c3”	“C3” or “c3”	Error	
C3	Timing Configuration	Detail Type	0	0	Error	
C3	Timing Configuration	Timing System Configuration ID		Timing system configuration id match C0 record Component C configuration id	Warning	
C3	Timing Configuration	Time Source				
C3	Timing Configuration	Frequency Source				
C3	Timing Configuration	Timer				
C3	Timing Configuration	Timer Serial Number				
C3	Timing Configuration	Epoch Delay Correction (μs)		[-1,-5.e5,...,5.e5]	Warning	
C3	Timing Configuration	Other		The record length must contain 8 fields	Error	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	C4	“C4” or “c4”	“C4” or “c4”	Error	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Detail Type	0	0	Error	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Transponder Configuration ID		Transponder configuration id match C0 record Component D configuration id	Warning	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Estimated Station UTC offset (ns)		[-1000, ..., 1000]	Warning	Best guess; should the OCs even be checking transponder values?

C4	Transponder (Clock)	Estimated Station Oscillator Drift (in parts in 1015)		[-1000,...,1000]	Warning	Best guess; should the OCs even be checking transponder values?
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Estimated Transponder UTC offset (ns)		[-100,...,100]	Warning	Best guess; should the OCs even be checking transponder values?
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Estimated Transponder Oscillator Drift (in parts in 1015)		[-1e8,...,1e8]	Warning	Best guess; should the OCs even be checking transponder values?
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Transponder Clock Reference Time (seconds, scaled or unscaled)		[-100,...,100]	Warning	Best guess; should the OCs even be checking transponder values?
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Station clock offset and drift applied indicator	[0,1,2,3]	[0,1,2,3]	Warning	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Spacecraft clock offset and drift applied indicator	[0,1,2,3]	[0,1,2,3]	Warning	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Spacecraft time simplified	[0,1]	[0,1]	Warning	
C4	Transponder (Clock)	Other		The record length must contain 11 fields	Error	
10	Range (Full rate)	10	“10”	“10”	Error	
10	Range (Full rate)	Seconds of day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
10	Range (Full rate)	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record. E.g. H4 start date/time \leq H4 start date + 10 record seconds of day \leq H4 end date/time	Error	LLR exempt because much LLR data is delivered as many sessions in one file.
10	Range (Full rate)	Time of flight in seconds		[-1,0, ...,3]	Error	Round trip time to the moon is under 3 seconds; if we will receive data to a distant object, we should revisit.
10	Range (Full rate)	System configuration id		System configuration ID must be in C0-record	Error	
10	Range (Full rate)	Epoch event	[0,1,2,3,4,5,6]	[0,1,2,3,4,5,6]	Warning	

	rate)					
10	Range (Full rate)	Filter flag	[0,1,2]	[0,1,2]	Warning	
10	Range (Full rate)	Detector channel		[0,1,..., 99]	Error	
10	Range (Full rate)	Stop number	[0,1,...]	[0,1,..., 99]	Error	
10	Range (Full rate)	Receive Amplitude		[-1, 0,...,99999]	Warning	
10	Range (Full rate)	Other 10 Check		The record length must contain 9 fields	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	11	“11”	“11”	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Seconds of day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
11	Range (Normal Point)	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record. E.g. H4 start date/time \leq H4 start date + 11 record seconds of day \leq H4 end date/time	Error	LLR exempt because much LLR data is delivered as many sessions in one file.
11	Range (Normal Point)			Must be in same revolution	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Time of flight in seconds		[-1,0, ...,3]	Error	Round trip time to the moon is under 3 seconds; if we will receive data to a distant object, we should revisit.
11	Range (Normal Point)	System configuration id		Valid System Configuration ID/ System configuration ID must be in C0-record	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Epoch event	[0,1,2,3,4,5,6]	[0,1,2,3,4,5,6]	Warning	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Normal point window length (sec)		[0,1,...300]	Error	LLR exempt; satellites have specific bins, LLR is highly variable
11	Range (Normal Point)	Normal point window length (sec)		Must match bin size for satellite from ILRS list	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Normal point window length (sec)		Each normal point must be from a different bin.	Warning	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Number of raw ranges	6-digit integer	[0,1,...]	Warning	

11	Range (Normal Point)	Bin RMS from mean of raw accepted time of flight values minus the trend function (ps)		[0,...6667]	Warning	Equivalent to 1m RMS
11	Range (Normal Point)	Bin skew from mean of raw accepted time of flight values minus the trend function		[-2,...,2]	Warning	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Bin kurtosis from mean of raw accepted time of flight values minus the trend function		[-2,...,3]	Warning	LLR exempt
11	Range (Normal Point)	Bin peak – mean (ps)		[-1000,...,1000]	Warning	LLR exempt
11	Range (Normal Point)	Return rate		[-1,0,1,...,100]	Warning	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Detector channel	[0, 1,...]	[0,1,..., 99]	Error	
11	Range (Normal Point)	Other 11 Check		The record length must contain 13 fields	Error	
12	Range Supplement	12	“12”	“12”	Error	
12	Range Supplement	Seconds of day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
12	Range Supplement	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record. E.g. H4 start date/time ≤ H4 start date + 12 record seconds of day ≤ H4 end date/time	Error	
12	Range Supplement	System configuration id		Valid system configuration id/ System configuration id must be in C0-record	Error	
12	Range Supplement	Tropospheric refraction correction, ps, one-way		[-1,0,...,1e4]	Warning	Comments indicate 2.5m/c, which is 8.34ns.
12	Range Supplement	Target center of mass correction, m, one-way		[-1,0,...,100]	Warning	The correction shouldn't be larger than the target; how large is the largest target?
12	Range Supplement	Neutral density filter value		[-1,0,...,100]	Warning	Format definition not clear and stations aren't using this field.

12	Range Supplement	Time bias applied		[-10,...,10]	Warning	Format definition not clear and stations aren't using this field.
12	Range Supplement	Other 12 Check		The record length must contain 7 fields	Error	
20	Meterological	20	“20”	“20”	Error	
20	Meterological	Seconds of day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Note: Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
20	Meterological	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record +/- 10min. E.g. H4 start-10min < 20 time < H4 end +10min	Warning	Trying to constrain weather records to be frequent but also aligned with calibration but also representative of change at the station is a lot for QC. The ILRS needs a clear requirement and there needs to be station outreach.
20	Meterological	Surface pressure		[700,...,1100]	Error	
20	Meterological	Surface temperature (K)		[240,...,330]	Error	
20	Meterological	Relative humidity (%)		[0,...,100]	Error	
20	Meterological	Origin of values	[0,1]	[-1 ,0,1]	[0,1]	
20	Meterological	Other 20 Check		The record length must contain 6 fields	Error	
20	Meterological			There must be at least one meteorological record	Error	
21	Meterological Supp	21	“21”	“21”	Error	
21	Meterological Supp	Seconds of Day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
21	Meterological Supp	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record +/- 10min. E.g. H4 start-10min < 20 time < H4 end +10min	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Wind Speed (m/s)		[-1,...,33]	Warning	Hurricane threshold

21	Meterological Supp	Wind Direction (deg az, north=0)		[-1, -180, ... , 360]	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Precipitation type				
21	Meterological Supp	Visibility (km)		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Sky Clarity (zenith extinction coeff)		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Atmospheric seeing (arcsec)		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Cloud cover (%)		[-1,...,100]	Warning	
21	Meterological Supp	Other 21 Check		The record length must contain 9 fields	Error	
30	Pointing Angles	30	“30”	“30”	Error	
30	Pointing Angles	Seconds of Day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
30	Pointing Angles	Seconds of day		Time falls between the start and end times in H4 record. E.g. H4 start date/time \leq H4 start date + 30 record seconds of day \leq H4 end date/time	Error	
30	Pointing Angles	Azimuth in degrees		[-1, -180, ... , 360]	Warning	
30	Pointing Angles	Elevation in degrees		[-1,...,90]	Warning	
30	Pointing Angles	Direction Flag	[0,1,2]	[-1,...,2]	Warning	
30	Pointing Angles	Angle origin indicator	[0,1,2,3]	[0,...,3]	Warning	
30	Pointing Angles	Refraction corrected	[0,1]	[0,1]	Warning	
30	Pointing Angles	Other 30 Check		The record length must contain 7 fields	Error	
40	Calibration	40	“40”	“40”	Error	
40	Calibration	Seconds of day		[0,...,86400]	Error	Normal data would be 00000 through 86399. A leap second would use 86400.
40	Calibration	Seconds of day		Within 2 hours of the pass E.g. H4 start date/time - 2hr \leq 40 record seconds of day \leq H4 end date/time + 2hr	Warning	Need clearer ILRS policy on how frequently stations must calibrate; within 2hr of pass will catch very infrequent cal.
40	Calibration	Type of data	[0,1,2,3,4,5]	[0,...,5]	Error	

40	Calibration	System configuration id		Valid System configuration ID must be in C0-record	Error	
40	Calibration	Number of data points recorded	[-1,0,1,...]	[-1,...,1.e8]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Number of data points used	[-1,0,1,...]	[-1,...,1.e8]	Warning	
40	Calibration	One way target distance (m)	[-1,0,1,...]	[-1,0.0,...1.e4]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Calibration System Delay (ps)		[-1.e5,...,1.e6]	Error	Calibration is an area where ILRS policy could be helpful.
40	Calibration	Calibration Delay Shift (ps)		[-6671,...,6671]	Error	Based on 1m
40	Calibration	RMS of raw system delay	[-1,...,2.e5]	[-1,0,...,667]	Error	Based on 10cm
40	Calibration	Skew of raw system delay values from the mean		[-2,...,2]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Kurtosis of raw system delay values from the mean		[-2,...,3]	Warning	
40	Calibration	System delay peak – mean		[-1000,...,1000]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Calibration Type Indicator	[0,1,2,3,4,5]	[0,1,2,3,4,5]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Calibration Shift Type Indicator	[0,1,2,3,4]	[0,1,2,3,4]	Warning	
40	Calibration	Detector channel	[0,1,...]	[0,...,99]	Error	
40	Calibration	Other 40 Check		The record length must contain 16 fields	Error	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	50	“50”	“50”	Error	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	System Configuration id		Valid system configuration ID/ System configuration ID must be in C0-record	Error	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Session RMS from the mean of raw, accepted time of flight values minus the trend function		[-1,0,...,667]	Warning	Based on 10cm
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Session skewness from the mean of raw accepted time of flight values minus the trend function		[-2,...,2]	Warning	

50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Session Kurtosis from the mean of raw accepted time of flight values minus the trend function		[-2,...,5]	Warning	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Session peak – mean		[-1000,...,1000]	Warning	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Data quality assessment indicator	[0,1,2,3,4,5]	[0,1,2,3,4,5]	Warning	
50	Session (Pass) Statistics	Other 50 Check		The record length must contain 7 fields	Error	
60	Compatibility Record	60	“60”	“60”	“60”	
60	Compatibility Record	System configuration id		“Valid System Configuration ID” or “Valid system configuration ID/ System configuration ID must be in C0-record”	Error	
60	Compatibility Record	System change indicator	[0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9]	[-1,0,...,9]	Warning	
60	Compatibility Record	System Configuration indicator		[-1,0,...,9]	Warning	
60	Compatibility Record	Other 60 Check		The record length must contain 4 fields	Error	
9X	User-defined	9X	“9”+[0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9]	not in ['9x']	Error	
00	Comment	00	“00”	“00”		
00	Comment	Other Comment Check		Length of Line must be less than or equal to 80 characters	Error	
global	Other Format Check	Other Format Check	Record type must be recognized	Record type must be recognized	Error	
global	Other Format Check	Other Format Check	There must be a C1-3 or 60 record	There must be a C1-3 or 60 record	Error	

CRD and CPF Format and Manual Updates

28 February 2018

Both the CPF and CRD formats have become a flexible way to distribute laser ranging predictions and data, respectively. Now that there have been years of experience with these formats, it is clear that there are some improvements that would make them more complete for several types of users.

1. In general

- a) Both formats will now be at version 2.
- b) Sample code changes will allow the reading of both version 1 and 2 CPF and CRD files.
- c) Manuals and included web links have been updated.

2. CPF changes

- a) The European Laser Transfer (ELT) mission required a change to the “H4” header record to include the epoch of the transponder oscillator drift.
- b) Due to the large drag effects on the International Space Stations (ISS), the ELT mission also required the ability to distribute more than 10 CPF versions each day. To accommodate this change, the sub-daily part of the sequence number will now be 2 digits long, with values from 1-99, with zero-fill.
- c) Target type in header H2 has been split into the following two fields to clarify functionality.
 1. “Target class” describes the reflector hardware: none, passive, synchronous transponder, or asynchronous transponder.
 2. “Dynamics/location” describes the location of the reflector: in orbit, on a surface, and the body (earth orbit, lunar orbit, lunar surface, etc.), other, or unknown.
- d) Stations are encouraged to build in the capability to handle CPFs written in the inertial reference frame (“H2” record, Reference frame = 2). While CPFs have so far only been allowed to be released in the body-fixed frame of reference, the ILRS would benefit from having this capability.
- e) The manual has been rewritten, eliminating dated information on conversion from IRV to CPF files and from older data formats to CRD. Other areas have been updated as needed.
- f) Proposed lunar/planetary one-way relativity correction records to use with transponders are not being added this time, and will be considered in the future only if there is a demonstrated need.
- g) NOTE: Read and observe the new method of handling leap seconds instituted in 2016, in which there is no tracking through the leap second.
- h) NOTE: Various prediction centers handle the start time and the length of CPF files differently. Some start on the even day. Some start 5 records early, so that the full accuracy of the 10-point interpolation will be available at the start of the day. Also, although the standard length of a CPF file is 5 days, certain providers have chosen to make their files longer or shorter.
- i) The time on the CPF file name is now defined as being the same as the start time on the H2 record; and the sequence number is now defined as being the day of year corresponding to the ephemeris production date on the H1 record, without adding 500.

3. CRD changes

- a) NOTE: The Station Epoch Time Scale (“H2”) must be set to 3 (UTC USNO), 4 (UTC GPS), or 7 (UTC BIH). Stations MUST NOT use any other values without agreement from the Analysis Standing Committee.
- b) Target type in header H2 has been split into two fields to allow for clearer functionality.

1. "Target class" describes the reflector hardware: none, passive, synchronous transponder, asynchronous transponder.
2. "Location/Dynamics" describes the location of the reflector: in orbit, on a surface, and the body (earth orbit, lunar orbit, lunar surface, etc.).
- c) The CRD Seconds of Day field in any of the data record types is still not allowed to exceed 86400. A problem that seemed to require extending the upper bound beyond 86400 has been solved in another way.
- d) Operations Centers' (OCs') range of acceptable values for each field will be included in an appendix. (For now this will only include fields from CPF version 1.)
- e) Shot records ("10") now include the fire energy; the return energy is already recorded.
 1. The energy fields are still in arbitrary units and are unlikely to be meaningful for comparison between stations. These fields are not in normal point ("11") records.
- f) The normal point record ("11") has been keeping the return rate for SLR and the S:N for LLR in the same field. They are now in separate fields: Return Rate, and Signal to Noise Ratio.
- g) APOLLO lunar ranging station LLR processing version and other processing details will continue to be recorded in comment records ("00"), not in new lunar-specific records.
- h) CRD software versions are now included in the new "C5" software configuration record.
 1. Capturing software versions can help analysts and stations isolate data anomalies created by software changes.
 2. The record(s) include ranging, calibration, filtering, normal pointing and related software that are in the data path. In other words, this is software which could alter the quality of the data if an incorrect modification were made.
- i) Models and serial numbers of meteorological equipment used in the current pass are recorded in the new "C6" configuration record.
 1. Equipment listed are those which measure pressure, temperature, humidity. This record should correspond to the meteorological equipment listed in the ILRS Site Log.
- j) More meteorological data can be added to the Meteorological Supplement Record ("21").
 1. Sky temperature.
 2. The "precipitation" field has been renamed "weather conditions". Previous character strings (e.g. "fog") will continue to be accepted as well as the 2-digit SYNOP/WMO present weather code.
- k) NOTE: The "Epoch delay correction" in the "Timing System Configuration Record" ("C3") is essentially the same as the "Estimated Station UTC Offset" in the "Transponder (Clock) Configuration Record" ("C4"), but their units are different due to different applications – microseconds vs. nanoseconds. When the "C4" record is present, its value supersedes the value in the "C3" record.
- l) The Compatibility record ("60") is obsolete and should no longer be sent.
- m) The Prediction Record (H5) has been added to log the CPF or TLE filename used in tracking.

A2	Record Type (= "H5" or "h5")
I2	Prediction type
	0 = Other
	1 = CPF
	2 = TLE
I2	CPF or TLE year of century
A6/A12	CPF date and hour (MMDDHH) from "H1" record; or TLE Epoch day/fractional day from line 1
A3	Prediction provider from CPF H1; TLE does not include this field, but it should be available at the station.

15 CPF Ephemeris sequence and sub-daily sequence numbers from H1; or
TLE Revolution number from line 2

- n) The “41” calibration detail record has been added to provide separate information on pre- and post- (or multiple) calibrations for each pass or pass segment. Every pass or pass segment must have a “40” record to give the overall calibration used to compute the “10” or “11” records’ time-of-flight and may have “41” records for more detailed information. Both record types now include “calibration span” and “return rate” fields.
- o) The “C2” Detector configuration record now includes amplifier information on gain, bandwidth, and whether the amplifier is used.
- p) Debris and other non-ILRS tracking uses
 1. H2: There are now alternate names for Crustal Dynamics Project (CDP) pad ID, system number, and move number for non-ILRS tracking stations, e.g., System/Sensor identifier, System/Sensor number, and Sequence number.
 2. H2: The tracking network name (A10) is added to the end of the record for network data exchange. For SLR, this field contains the network, such as “NASA”, “WPLTN”, etc. For debris tracking, this is the debris tracking network, etc.
 3. H3: “no reflector” has been added to the list of possible target types.
 4. 12, 30: Azimuth, elevation, and range rates have been included in appropriate records.
 5. Filename conventions (debris and other non-ILRS tracking ONLY, not to go through OCs) include the network name to uniquely identify a station, e.g.,
“networkname_ssss_satname_crd_yyyymmdd_hh_rr.xxx,

where the networkname represents a debris or other network, the names of which are not yet defined.

4. CPF and CRD

- a) Added “Satellite Catalog Number” to NORAD ID field name, since they are interchangeable.
- b) Made the header records free format. The configuration and data records already are free format.
 1. This is definitely not backward-compatible, though the software modifications should be minor.
 2. CPF note field will include up to 10 non-spaces following the target name.
- c) There have been cases where the COSPAR ID to ILRS ID conversion did not follow the documented conversion scheme. This has only happened for two satellites so far and will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. A general fix would probably require a change from 7 to 8 digits in the ILRS ID, which is not justified at this time.

5. Implementation plans

CPF update implementation plans:

- a) What needs to be changed?
 1. The manual.
 2. Sample code: Needs backward compatibility for reading both version 1 and 2.
 3. Prediction Providers: At the beginning, version 2 CPFs will be provided by the ELT mission and a few others.
 4. OCs and DCs must provide space and handling for the V2 CPFs.
 5. Station software: Ingest new format at the stations, especially those intending to track ELT.
- b) Milestones and associated dates will be provided in other communications.

CRD update implementation plans:

- a) What needs to be changed?
 1. The manual.

2. Sample code: Needs backward compatibility for reading both version 1 and 2.
 3. OC software: Validation code must handle new fields.
 4. OCs and DCs must provide space and handling for the V2 CRDs.
 5. Analysis software: Analysis Standing Committee needs to address the changes and ensure that the users can read both versions of the format.
 6. Station software: Mainly processing and normal point code.
 7. OCs, Data Centers, analysts, and debris tracking SC must accept original and new versions.
- b) Milestones and associated dates will be provided in other communications.

6. Implications for Producers and Users

- a) Manuals: Should be easier to read. They will be passed on to editors adept at making documentation clear for those not having English as their first language. A glossary of terms may be included with the CPF manual; one already exists in the CRD manual. Including debris or other tracking means, there is a more generic wording for several fields, e.g., satellite and station identification.
- b) Sample code will be able to read both versions 1 and 2 and write version 2. This should make incompatibilities easier to manage. Conversion programs to convert version 1 to version 2 format and vice versa can be written and added to the sample code if necessary.
- c) Free format headers:
 1. Users, including analysts, should be able to read version 1 or 2 of CRD or CPF.
 2. CPF producers should produce version 1 and 2 fixed format headers for the next couple years, or until stations have converted to the new format.
 3. This change requires little work for those using the new version of CPF and CRD sample code.
- d) Software and meteorological sensor configuration records (C5 and C6) should be included, but should not generate error messages from the Data OCs for some time.
- e) Prediction file record (H5) should be included, but should not generate error messages from the OCs for some time.
- f) The Compatibility Record (60) is no longer needed or used. It should be eliminated, and a warning should be issued by the OCs if it is present.