



Introduction to GNSS

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GNSS Introduction

• GNSS or Global Navigation Satellite System is an acronym used to represent all navigation satellite systems such as

Satellite	Country	Coverage
GPS	USA	Global
GLONASS	Russia	Global
Galileo	Europe	Global
BeiDou (BDS)	Dou (BDS) China	
QZSS (Michibiki)	Japan	Regional
NavIC	India	Regional
KPS (to be launched by 2034)	Korea	Regional

- ✓ GPS and GLONASS have signals for civilian and military usage
 - Military signals are encrypted and not available for civilian use
- ✓ Galileo and BeiDou also have Restricted Signals
- ✓ All civilian signals are freely available
- ✓ Technical information for civilian signals is made public
 - Necessary to develop a receiver
 - It's called ICD (Interface Control Document) or IS (Interface Specification) Document



https://gssc.esa.int/navipedia/images/c/cf/GNSS_All_Signals.png





Systems Related with Navigation



ICAO defines regulations related to the use of GNSS and SBAS for aviation





Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS)

- Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS) are used to augment GNSS Data
 - Provide Higher Accuracy and Integrity
 - Correction data for satellite orbit errors, satellite clock errors, atmospheric correction data and satellite health status are broadcasted from satellites
- SBAS Service Providers
 - WAAS, USA (131,133,135,138)
 - MSAS, Japan (129,137)
 - EGNOS, Europe (120,121,123,124,126,136)
 - BDSBAS, China (130,143,144)
 - GAGAN, India (127,128,132)
 - SDCM, Russia (125,140,141)
 - KASS, Korea (134), Also Navigation System (KPS)
 - AUS-NZ, Australia (122)
 - NSAS, Nigeria, (147)
 - ASAL, Algeria (148)





QZSS (Japanese version of GPS)



QZSS 1st Satellite was Launched on 11th SEP 2010 and Declared Operational on 1st NOV 2018



Declaration Ceremony of QZSS Operation

http://qzss.go.jp/events/ceremony_181105.html

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QZSS Constellation Plan

Equator			
	1 sat constellation	4 sat. constellation	7 sat. constellation
Number of Satellites	QZO •: 1	QZO •: 3, GEO •: 1	QZO•:4, GEO•:2, QGO•:1
Purpose	Research & Development	Operational Complements GPS for positioning	Operational, Autonomous Positioning Capability with QZSS only
Government Authority	JAXA	Cabinet Office	Cabinet Office
Operation	2010~ (10 years)	2018~(15 years)	2023~(15 years)
Service Time / day (Japan)	8 hours / day	24 hours / day	24 hours / day

QZO: Quasi-zenith Orbit / GEO: Geosynchronous Orbit / QGO: Quasi-geostationary Orbit

Source: MGA 2019, Mitsubishi





2. QZSS 7SV Constellation Design



This slide is taken from presentation slides of S. Kogure, Introduction to Michibiki and EWS, presented on 13th July 2021





QZSS Signals and PRN ID: Current Status

PRN	SVN	Satellite	Launch Date (UTC)	Orbit	Positioning Signals	PRN	SVN	Satellite	Launch Date (UTC)	Orbit	Positioning Signals
193					L1C/A, L1C, L2C, L5	196					L1C/A, L1C, L2C, L5
183	J001	QZS-1	2010/9/11	QZO	L1S	186	1005	076 1B	2021/10/26	070	L1S
193					L6	186	1002	Q23-1K	2021/10/28	QZU	L5S
194					L1C/A, L1C, L2C, L5	196					L6
184	1002	075.2	2017/6/1	QZO	L1S						
196	J002	Q23-2	2017/6/1		L5S						
194					L6						
199					L1C/A, L1C, L2C, L5						
189					L1S		1				
197	1003	075.2	2017/2/10	GEO	L5S		1				
137	1002	Q23-5	2017/0/19		L1Sb						
199					L6		1				
-					Sr/Sf						
195					L1C/A, L1C, L2C, L5						
185	1004	076 4	2017/10/0	070	L1S						
200	JUU4	UZ3-4	2017/10/9	QZO	L5S						
195					L6						

Source: https://qzss.go.jp/technical/satellites/index.html





Characteristics of QZSS

- QZSS signal is designed in such a way that it is interoperable with GPS
- QZSS is visible near zenith; improves visibility & DOP in dense urban area
- Provides Orbit Data of other GNSS signals
- Provides <u>Augmentation Data for Sub-meter and Centimeter level position accuracy</u>
- Provides Messaging System during Disasters





Merits of QZSS

- Disaster and Crisis Management
- Short Message broadcast during Disaster
- Sub-Meter Level Augmentation Service (SLAS)



- High-Accuracy Positioning Services
- CLAS and MADOCA











QZSS Signals: High-Accuracy, Authentication and DC Report

Signal Name	Purpose	Signal Band	Accuracy	Convergence Time	Availability	Remarks
CLAS	High Accuracy	L6D	2 – 5 cm	Few minutes Japan only		
MADOCA	High Accuracy	L6E	10 – 20 cm	10 – 20 minutes	QZSS Visible Area	Convergence time can be reduced by using local correction data
DC Report	Disaster Crisis (DC) Report during disasters	L1S	Not Applicable	Not Applicable (Available every 3 sec)	QZSS Visible Area	Also called Early Warning Message. Basically for Japan. Additional Message Types are defined for other countries as well.
Q-Anpi	2-Way communication during disasters	S	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	QZSS Visible Area	
SAS	Signal Authentication	L1, L5, L6	Not Applicable	Not Applicable (TTFA, TBA See QZSS IS Document)	QZSS Visible Area	Authenticates QZSS, GPS, and Galileo signals LNAV, CNAV, CNAV-2, I/NAV, and F/NAV Messages





QZSS Launch Schedule



The QZS-5 or the Sixth satellite was launched on 2nd February 2025 successfully.





How does a GPS/GNSS Receiver Work?





GPS L1C/A Signal Structure

- Carrier Signal
 - It defines the frequency of the signal
 - For example:
 - GPS L1 is 1575.42MHz, L2 is 1227.60MHz and L5 is 1176.45MHz
- PRN Code
 - Necessary to modulate carrier signal
 - Used to identify satellite ID in the signal
 - Should have good auto-correlation and cross-correlation properties
- Navigation Data
 - Includes satellite orbit related data (ephemeris and almanac data)
 - Includes satellite clock related information (clock errors etc.)
 - Includes satellite health information





GPS L1C/A Signal Structure (Satellite Side)







GPS L1C/A Receiver Signal Processing







Generation of GPS L1C/A PRN Code

- Based on Gold Codes
- Use two 10 bit registers, G1 and G2 LFSR (Linear Feed Shift Register)
- All initial bits of registers are set at 1
- Taps 3 and 10 are used for G1
- Taps 2,3,6,8,9,10 are used for G2
- Two additional taps are selected based on PRN ID. See GPS IS document for the list of the taps.
- Example, Taps 2 and 7 are used for PRN ID 1.

Refer video recording of webinar for details on PRN Code: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=elWbDBHTJ6l&t=2s







PRN Code Output #1







Block Diagram of GPS Receiver



fc, f0, fs are only example values.

These values differ depending upon the design of the front-end





Tracking Output (I and Q Channels)

How does GPS Signal Look Like?







Acquisition of GPS L1C/A Signal with Higher Noise













GNSS: How does it work? Determine the Distance using Radio Wave







Pseudorange (Code-Phase Measurement) - 1







GNSS: How does it work? Principle of Satellite-based Navigation

 (x^k, y^k, z^k)



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Correlation between Incoming Signal and **Receiver Generated Signal**





Error sources







Pseudorange equation

Ideal Case:

$$\rho_0 = c(t_r - t_s)$$



Simplified Equation: $\rho = \rho_0 + c(\delta t_r - \delta t_s) + \varepsilon$





Pseudorange model

$$\rho = \sqrt{(x - x_s)^2 + (y - y_s)^2 + (z - z_s)^2} + c(\delta t_r - \delta t_s) + \varepsilon$$

$$\rho_0$$

Where:

x, y, z : Unknown receiver position delta tr: Unknown receiver clock error epsilon : minimize this error by finding an optimal solution

- In order to solve the above equations, we need "n" simultaneous nonlinear equations from "n" pseudorange observations.
- We need at least 4 independent observations in order to determine 4 unknown parameters, x, y, z and receiver clock error.



Range between satellite and receiver





PRN (Pseudo Random Noise) Code

- PRN Code is a sequence of randomly distributed zeros and ones that is one millisecond long.
 - This random distribution follows a specific code generation pattern called Gold Code.
 - There are 1023 zeros and ones in one millisecond.
- Each GPS satellite transmits a unique PRN Code.
 - GPS receiver identifies satellites by its unique PRN code or ID.
- It continually repeats every millisecond
 - The receiver can detect where the PRN code terminated or repeated.
 - A unique sequence of bits indicates start of a PRN code.
- It helps to measure signal transit time and compute pseudorange between the receiver and the satellite







Pseudorange (Code-Phase Measurement) - 2





Carrier-Phase Measurement – 1

- Carrier-Phase measurement is done by counting the number of cycles coming from the satellite to the receiver.
- However, there are many complexities in measuring total number of cycles (N) from the satellite to the receiver.
 - This is called integer ambiguity
 - This is due to the fact that all cycles are the same and there are no headers to tell the receiver when a new cycle has arrived after number of cycles as in PRN code.
 - A PRN code has a header to tell the receiver that this is the beginning of the PRN code that is 1023 chips long.
 - There are algorithms to solve this problem of ambiguity resolution.
- One complete cycle for GPS L1 band is 19cm long.
 - Thus, if we can measure one wavelength, we can get 19cm accuracy
 - If we can measure 1/10th of a cycle, we get about 2cm accuracy.
 - Thus, Carrier-Phase measurement can provide centimeter level accuracy.









Code-Phase (PRN Code) vs. Carrier-Phase Measurement



Code-Phase Measurement	Carrier-Phase Measurement
Measuring distance between the satellite and the receiver with a tape that has distance markings as well as distance values written. So that we can measure correct distance.	Measuring distance between the satellite and the receiver with a tape that has distance markings but distance values are not written. We only know that each distance marker is 19cm apart. So, we need to count at certain point the number of cycles separately that's coming to the receiver.
Only provide meter level accuracy	Provides centimeter level accuracy





How to Improve GPS Accuracy?





GPS Position Accuracy

How to achieve accuracy from few meters to few centimeters?



SPP (Single Point Position)

DGPS (Differential GPS) Code-phase observation RTK (Real Time Kinematic) Carrier-phase observation





Error sources







Errors in GPS Observation (L1C/A Signal)

Error Sourcos	One-Sign	na Error , m	Commonte	
EITOI Sources	Total	DGPS	Comments	
Satellite Orbit	2.0	0.0	Common orrors are removed	
Satellite Clock	2.0	0.0	Common errors are removed	
Ionosphere Error	4.0	0.4	Common orrors are reduced	
Troposphere Error	0.7	0.2	common errors are reduced	
Multipath	1.4	1.4		
Receiver Circuits	0.5	0.5		

If we can remove common errors, position accuracy can be increased.

Common errors are: Satellite Orbit Errors, Satellite Clock Errors and Atmospheric Errors (within few km)

Values in the Table are just for illustrative purpose, not the exact measured values. Table Source : http://www.edu-observatory.org/gps/gps_accuracy.html#Multipath





How to Improve Accuracy?

- Both Code-Phase and Carrier-Phase observations are necessary
 - Carrier-phase provides centimeter level resolution
- Need to remove or minimize the following errors:
 - Satellite Related Error
 - Satellite orbit errors
 - Satellite clock errors
 - Space Related Errors
 - Ionospheric errors
 - Tropospheric erros
 - Receiver Related Errors
 - Receiver clock error
 - Receiver circuit related





Observation Methods for High-Accuracy

- Basically three types of Observation
 - DGPS (Differential GPS)
 - Code-phase observation
 - Requires Base-station (Reference Station)
 - RTK (Real Time Kinematic)
 - Code-phase and Carrier-Phase Observation
 - Requires Base-station (Reference Station)
 - PPP (Precise Point Positioning)
 - Code-phase and Carrier-phase observation
 - Does not require base-station





Which Method: DGPS, SBAS, RTK, PPP?



http://www.novatel.com/an-introduction-to-gnss/chapter-5-resolving-errors/

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How to Improve Accuracy? Use Differential Correction (DGPS / RTK)







How to Improve Accuracy? Use QZSS Service MADOCA or CLAS







Data Formats: Standard Formats: NMEA, RINEX, RTCM, BINEX Proprietary Data Formats: UBX, SBF, JPS, Txx/Rxx etc.

References: https://www.nmea.org/





National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) Format

- NMEA is format to output measurement data from a sensor in a predefined format in ASCII
- In the case of GPS, It outputs GPS position, velocity, time and satellite related data
- NMEA sentences (output) begins with a "Talker ID" and "Message Description"
 - Example: \$GPGGA,123519,4807.038,N,01131.000,E,1,08,0.9,545.4,M,46.9,M,,*47
 - "\$GP" is Talker ID
 - "GGA" is Message Description to indicate for Position Data





NMEA Data Format

	GGA - Fix da	ita which pro	ovide 3D location and accuracy data.					
	\$GPGGA.123519.4807.038.N.01131.000.E.1.08.0.9.545.4.M.46.9.M*47							
Where: GGA Global Positioning System Fix Data								
	123519		Fix taken at 12:35:19 UTC					
	4807.038,	Ν	Latitude 48 deg 07.038' N					
			(do not read it as four thousand eight hundred seven					
			Read it as 48 degrees, 07.038 minutes)					
	01131.000 <i>,</i> E	Longitude 11	deg 31.000' E					
	1 Fix quality:							
			0 = invalid ,					
			1 = GPS fix (SPS),					
			2 = DGPS fix,					
			3 = PPS fix,					
			4 = Real Time Kinematic (RTK FIX)					
			5 = RTK Float					
			6 = estimated (dead reckoning) (2.3 feature)					
			7 = Manual input mode					
			8 = Simulation mode					
	08		Number of satellites being tracked					
	0.9		Horizontal dilution of position					
	545.4,M		Altitude, Meters, above mean sea level					
	46.9 <i>,</i> M		Height of geoid (mean sea level) above WGS84 ellipsoid					
	(empty field)		time in seconds since last DGPS update (empty field) DGPS station ID number					
	*47		the checksum data, always begins with *					





RINEX Data Format

- RINEX: Receiver Independent Exchange Format is a data exchange format for raw satellite data among different types of receivers.
 - Different types of receivers may output position and raw data in proprietary formats
 - For post-processing of data using DGPS or RTK it is necessary to use data from different types of receivers. A common data format is necessary for this purpose.
 - Example: How to post process data from Trimble, Novatel and Septenrtio receivers to compute a position?
- RINEX only provides Raw Data. It does not provide position output.
 - User has to post-process RINEX data to compute position
 - Raw data consists of Pseudorage, Carrierphase, Doppler, SNR
- RINEX basically consists of two data types
 - "*.*N" file for Satellite and Ephemeris Related data.
 - Also called Navigation Data
 - "*.*O" file for Signal Observation Data like Pseudorange, Carrier Phase, Doppler, SNR
 - Also called Observation Data
- The latest RINEX version is 3.04, 23 NOV 2018
 - Note: Not all the software and receivers are yet compatible with the latest version
 - Make sure which version of RINEX works the best with your software



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RINEX "N" File for GPS

- [2 11	NAVICATION DATA	CDG (CDG)	DINEY VEDSION / TYPE
	2.11	NAVIGATION DATA		KINDA VERSION / IIPE
	CNVTTORINEX 2.90.	0 convertToRINEX OPF	05-Jul-17 03:38 UTC	PGM / RUN BY / DATE
				COMMENT
	0.8382D-08 0	.2235D-07 -0.5960D-07	/ -0.1192D-06	ION ALPHA
	0.8602D+05 0	.6554D+05 -0.1311D+06	5 -0.4588D+06	ION BETA
	-0.93132257461	5D-09-0.355271367880D	0-14 405504 1947	DELTA-UTC: A0,A1,T,W
	18			LEAP SECONDS
				END OF HEADER
	32 17 05 01 00 00	0.0-0.4007234238091	-03-0.110276232590D-1	0 0.00000000000D+00
	0.3700000000	0D+02-0.806250000000	0+01 0.455840416154D-0	8-0.192420920137D+01
	-0.35390257835	4D-06 0.1110649085601	0-02 0.826455652714D-0	5 0.515371503258D+04
	0.8640000000	0D+05-0.7823109626771	0-07 0.675647076441D-0	1-0.838190317154D-07
	0.95852912430	0D+00 0.221156250000I	0+03-0.265074890978D+0	1-0.796390315710D-08
	-0.38965908800	8D-09 0.100000000000	0+01 0.19470000000D+0	4 0.00000000000D+00
	0.2400000000	0D+01 0.000000000000	0+00 0.465661287308D-0	9 0.37000000000D+02
	0.7951200000	0D+05 0.400000000000	+01 0.00000000000D+0	0 0.00000000000D+00
	24 17 05 01 00 00	0.0-0.341213308275	-04-0.454747350886D-1	2 0.00000000000D+00
	0.1000000000	0D+02 0.787812500000	0+02 0.459340561950D-0	8 0.167267059468D+01
	0.40456652641	3D-05 0.5642976379021	0-02 0.102464109659D-0	4 0.515370226479D+04
	0.8640000000	0D+05-0.7823109626771	0-07 0.108986675687D+0	1 0.484287738800D-07
	0.94565142364	0D+00 0.170906250000I	0+03 0.490563049326D+0	0-0.815641117584D-08
	-0.12893394204	5D-09 0.100000000000	0+01 0.194700000000D+0	4 0.000000000000D+00
	0.2400000000	0D+01 0.000000000000	+00 0.279396772385D-0	8 0.10000000000D+02
	0.7921800000	0D+05 0.400000000000	0+01 0.000000000000000000000000000000000	0 0.00000000000D+00





RINEX "O" File GPS, GLONASS, GALILEO, QZSS, SBAS

	2.	.11		OBSEI	RVATION	I DATA	Mixed	d (MIX	ED)		RINEX VERSION / TYPE
cnvt	ToF	RINEX	2.90.0	conve	ertToRI	INEX O	PR 05-J1	ıl-17	03:38	UTC	PGM / RUN BY / DATE
											COMMENT
KMBA											MARKER NAME
KMBA											MARKER NUMBER
DM				UT							OBSERVER / AGENCY
5536	R50	0102		TRIM	BLE NET	rr9	5.20				REC # / TYPE / VERS
				UNKNO	OWN EXT	2					ANT # / TYPE
-39	555	510.89	82 335	7111.(6791 3	369779	6.5495				APPROX POSITION XYZ
		0.00	00	0.0	0000		0.0000				ANTENNA: DELTA H/E/N
	1	1	0								WAVELENGTH FACT L1/2
	8	C1	C2	C3	L1	L2	L3	P1	P2		# / TYPES OF OBSERV
	1.	.000									INTERVAL
20	17	5	1	0	0	0.	0000000	G	PS		TIME OF FIRST OBS
20	17	5	1	23	59	59.	0000000	G	PS		TIME OF LAST OBS
	0										RCV CLOCK OFFS APPL
	18										LEAP SECONDS
	59										# OF SATELLITES
G	01	23351	23350	0	23350	46694	0	0	23344		prn / # of obs
G	02	22293	0	0	22293	22286	0	0	22286		prn / # of obs
G	03	19633	19632	0	19632	39259	0	0	19627		prn / # of obs
G	05	25303	25302	0	25299	50599	0	0	25297		prn / # of obs
G	06	24709	24708	0	24709	49411	0	0	24703		prn / # of obs
G	07	27766	27764	0	27764	55505	0	0	27741		prn / # of obs





RINEX "O" File, Continued from previous slide

	S37	86	400		0	0	864	00	0	0	0	0	PRI	N /	′#(OF OBS		
	S40	56	700		0	0	567	00	0	0	0	0	PR	м /	′#(OF OBS		
CAR	RIE	R PI	HAS	E ME	ASUR	EMEN	TS:	PHASE	SHIFTS	REM	OVED		CO	MME	INT			
													EN	DC	F HE	EADER		
17	5	1	0	0	0.0	0000	00	0 19G	10G12G1	4G15	G18G2	4G25G31	G32R01	R02	2R03			
								R	11R12R1	3 <mark>5</mark> 28	s29s3	37S40						
2	1375	537	9.4	06 7	21	3753	88.0	78 9				1123283	84.475	7	875	528640	.180	9
									213753	88.4	1448							
2	0991	L58	8.4	69 7	20	9915	94.4	18 9				1103115	59.942	7	859	957091	.970	9
									209915	94.7	1548							
2	3091	778	8.5	00 6	5							1213797	11.146	6	945	581624	.2514	7
									230977	93.8	5247							
2	4539	946	4.6	48 6	5 24	5394	73.4	808				1289557	22.954	6	1004	484989	.893	8
									245394	73.6	6046							
2	1890	008	1.0	00 6	5							1150331	47.870	6	896	536240	.0214	7
									218900	86.5	3547							
2	276	084	6.3	98 6	5 22	7608	55.3	13 9				1196090	48.681	6	932	201876	.319	9
									227608	54.8	6347							
2	0303	328	4.2	66 7	20	3032	94.2	27 9				1066945	10.219	7	831	L38615	.317	9
									203032	94.0	1248							
2	344(074	1.2	58 6	5 23	4407	48.2	11 8				1231819	35.734	6	959	985961	.100	8
									234407	48.6	2147							
2	1395	576	0.7	42 7	21	3957	69.1	45 9				1124355	02.496	7	876	512113	.685	9
									213957	69.3	0548							



BINEX: Binary Exchange Data Format

- BINEX is a data format to exchange GNSS raw data between the receivers for systems
- Defined by Record IDs
 - Record 0x00 = 0 for site/monument/marker/reference point/setup metadata
 - Record 0x01 = 1 for GNSS navigation information
 - Record 0x02 = 2 for generalized GNSS
 - Record 0x03 = 3 for generalized ancillary site data
 - Record 0x04 = 4 for receiver internal state data
 - Record 0x05 = 5 for processed results, e.g. PVT
 - Record 0x7d = 125 for receiver internal state data prototyping
 - Record 0x7e = 126 for ancillary site data prototyping
 - Record 0x7f = 127 for GNSS data prototyping
- Records may have Sub-Record IDs





RTCM

- RTCM : Radio Technical Commission for Maritime Services
 - An internationally accepted data transmission standard for base-station data transmission to a rover. The standards are defined and maintained by RTCM SC-104
 - Provides GNSS Raw Data in compressed format
 - Major standard for real-time data exchange
- RTCM SC-104 (Special Committee 104)
 - Defines data formats for Differential GPS, RTK
- The Current Version is RTCM-3 (10403.3)
- Refer https://www.rtcm.org/ for detail information and document
 - A normal user does not need RTCM document.
 - GNSS receivers with base-station capabilities will setup necessary messages for RTK
 - If you are developing a system or application you may need it





RTCM

- MT 1- 100 : Experimental Messages
- MT 1001 1230 : GNSS Messages
- MT 4001 4095 : Proprietary Messages
- Example: Observation Messages
 - GPS L1 MT: 1001, 1002
 GPS L1/L2 MT: 1003, 1004
 - GLONASS L1 MT: 1009, 1010
 - GLONASS L1/L2 MT: 1011, 1012
 - Station Coordinates MT: 1005,1006
 - Antenna Description MT: 1007,1008
- Example: MT1004
 - Extended L1&L2 GPS RTK Observables
 - This GPS message type is the most common observational message type, with L1/L2/SNR content.





Coordinate Systems





Geodetic Coordinate System







ECEF (Earth Centered, Earth Fixed)

ECEF Coordinate System is expressed by assuming the center of the earth coordinate as (0, 0, 0)







Coordinate Conversion from ECEF to Geodetic and vice versa

Geodetic Latitude, Longitude & Height to ECEF (X, Y, Z)

- $X = (N+h)\cos\varphi\cos\lambda$
- $Y = (N+h)\cos\varphi\sin\lambda$
- $Z = [N(1 e^2) + h] \sin \varphi$

 $\varphi = Latitude$ $\lambda = Longitude$ h = Height above Ellipsoid

a = semi-major axis b = semi-minor axis $e^2 = 1 - (b^2/a^2)$ ECEF (X, Y, Z) to Geodetic Latitude, Longitude & Height

 $\varphi = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{Z + e^2 b \sin^3 \theta}{p - e^2 a \cos^3 \theta}\right)$ $\lambda = \operatorname{atan2}(y, x)$ $h = \frac{P}{\cos \varphi} - \operatorname{N}(\varphi)$ $P = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ $\theta = \operatorname{atan}\left(\frac{Za}{Pb}\right)$ $\operatorname{N}(\varphi) = \frac{a}{\sqrt{1 - e^2 \sin^2 \varphi}}$





Geodetic Datum: Geometric Earth Model



GPS uses WGS-84 Datum

But, topographic maps and many other maps use different datum. Before using GPS data on these maps, its necessary to convert GPS coordinates from WGS-84 to local coordinate system and datum. Many GPS software have this tool. Also, GPS receivers have built-in datum selection capabilities.

Check your receiver settings before using.

WGS-84 Geodetic Datum Ellipsoidal Parameters Semi-Minor Axis, b = 6356752.3142mSemi-Major Axis, a = 6378137.0mFlattening, f = (a-b)/a = 1/298.257223563First Eccentricity Square = $e^2 = 2f - f^2$ = 0.00669437999013





Ellipsoid, Geoid and Mean Sea Level (MSL)



MSL Height (H) = Ellipsoidal height (h) – Geoid height (N) Geoid Height is negative if its below Ellipsoidal height Example at point (1) : h = 1200m, N = -30mH = h - N = 1200 - (-30) = 1200 + 30 = 1230m Example at point (2) : h = 300m, N = +15mH = h - N = 300 - 15 = 285m CSIS Center for Spatial Information Science The University of Tokyo



Height Data Output in u-blox Receiver, NMEA Sentence, \$GNGGA Sentence

Geoid Separation MSL (Altitude) \$GNVTG,,T,,M,0.010,N,0.018,K,D*30 Geoid Height \$GNGGA,012039.00,3554.18235,N,13956.35867,E,2,12,0.48,54.4,M,39.6,M,0.0,0000*5D \$GNGSA,A,3,03,04,06,09,17,19,22,28,194,195,02,,0.92,0.48,0.78,1*06 \$GNGSA,A,3,11,12,04,24,19,31,33,,,,,0.92,0.48,0.78,3*00 \$GNGSA,A,3,30,01,03,14,08,28,33,04,02,07,10,13,0.92,0.48,0.78,4*08 \$GPGSV,5,1,17,01,18,076,,02,04,279,36,03,43,045,43,04,34,109,41,1*6C \$GPGSV,5,2,17,06,38,295,43,09,26,152,40,11,02,107,29,17,74,330,47,1*67 \$GPGSV,5,3,17,19,53,320,45,22,22,048,39,28,36,213,43,41,18,249,39,1*6D \$GPGSV,5,4,17,50,46,201,40,193,52,172,43,194,16,193,40,195,85,163,46,1*5E \$GPGSV,5,5,17,199,46,201,37,1*66 \$GAGSV,2,1,07,04,25,175,40,11,28,299,37,12,65,007,43,19,50,105,40,7*72 \$GAGSV,2,2,07,24,27,245,41,31,09,198,36,33,33,082,42,7*43 \$GBGSV,4,1,15,01,48,172,43,02,19,248,36,03,39,225,43,04,44,148,42,1*7C \$GBGSV,4,2,15,06,00,185,29,07,39,214,41,08,53,305,43,10,44,248,42,1*7C \$GBGSV,4,3,15,13,33,283,42,14,23,043,38,27,55,323,48,28,61,092,48,1*71

\$GBGSV,4,4,15,30,05,306,36,32,17,206,42,33,48,055,46,1*4F

\$GNGLL,3554.18235,N,13956.35867,E,012039.00,A,D*76

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	NMEA - GxGGA (Glob	al Positioning Syst	em Fix Data)	
	Parameter	Value	Unit	Description
	ofu,	012040.00	hhmmss.sss	Universal time coordinated
	Lat	3554.18235	ddmm.mmmm	Latitude
	Northing Indicator	N		N=North, S=South
	Lon	13956.35868	dddmm.mmmm	Longitude
	Easting Indicator	E		E=East, W=West
	Status	2		0=Invalid, 1=2D/3D, 2=DGNSS, 4=Fixed RTK, 5=Float RTK, 6=Dead Reckoning
	SVs Used	12		Number of SVs used for Navigation
	HDOP	0.48		Horizontal Dilution of Precision
	Alt (MSL)	54.4	m	Altitude (above means sea level)
	Unit	М		M=Meters
	Geoid Sep.	39.6	m	Geoid Separation = Alt(HAE) - Alt(MSL)
	Unit	М		M=Meters
	Age of DGNSS Corr	0.0	S	Age of Differential Corrections
	DGNSS Ref Station	0000		ID of DGNSS Reference Station

The NMEA sentences in this figure are from u-blox receiver. NMEA format uses "Mean Sea Level" for height data (shown in blue texts). Also it provides Geoid Height (Geoid Separation) value. GPS by default is Ellipsoidal height and this height is converted to Mean Sea Level height using the geoid Height (shown in red texts). This means, u-blox receiver uses a built-in database of Geoid Height. U-blox also outputs Ellipsoidal height in proprietary message \$PUBX,00 (marked as altRef)

U-blox also outputs Ellipsoidal height in proprietary message \$PUBX,00 (marked as altRef) \$PUBX,00,time,lat,NS,long,EW,altRef,navStat,hAcc,vAcc,SOG,COG,vVel,diffAge,HDOP,VDO P,TDOP,numSvs,reserved,DR,*cs<CR><LF> altRef → Altitude above user datum ellipsoid



Points to Be Careful in GPS Survey

- Datum
 - Which Datum is used for GPS Survey?
 - By default, GPS uses WGS-84
 - But, your Map may be using different datum like Everest
 - Make Sure that Your Map and Your Coordinates from the GPS are in the same Datum, if not, datum conversion is necessary
 - You can get necessary transformation parameters from your country's survey department
- Height
 - Which Height is used?
 - By default GPS uses Ellipsoidal Height
 - But, your Map may be using Mean Sea Level (MSL or Topographic) Height
 - You need to convert from Ellipsoidal Height into MSL Height
 - Use Ellipsoidal and Geoid height Difference Data for your survey region
 - You can get it from your country's survey office





GNSS Errors





Background Information: Accuracy vs. Precision

- Accuracy
 - Capable of providing a correct measurement
 - Measurement is compared with true value
 - Affected by systematic error
- Precision
 - Capable of providing repeatable and reliable measurement
 - Statistical analysis of measurement provides the precision
 - Measure of random error
 - Systematic error has no effect







GNSS Measurement Errors

Measure	Abbreviation	Definition
Root Mean Square	RMS	The square root of the average of the squared errors
Twice Distance RMS	2D RMS	Twice the RMS of the horizontal errors
Circular Error Probable	CEP	A circle's radius, centered at the true antenna position, containing 50% of the points in the horizontal scatter plot
Horizontal 95% Accuracy	R95	A circle's radius, centered at the true antenna position, containing 95% of the points in the horizontal scatter plot
Spherical Error Probable	SEP	A sphere's radius centered at the true antenna position, containing 50% of the points in the three dimensional scatter plot

Source: GPS Accuracy: Lies, Damn Lies, and Statistics, GPS World, JAN 1998 https://www.gpsworld.com/gps-accuracy-lies-damn-lies-and-statistics/



Commonly Used GNSS Performance Measurements

• TTFF

- True Time to First Fix
- Parameter: Cold Start, Warm Start, Hot Start
- Standard Accuracy
 - Accuracy attainable without any correction techniques
- DGPS Accuracy
 - Accuracy attainable by differential correction data
 - Code-phase correction
- RTK Accuracy
 - Accuracy attainable by differential correction data
 - Use both Code-Phase and Carrier Phase correction





TTFF and Typical Example Values

• TTFF

- Cold Start : < 36 seconds
 - Time required to output first position data since the receiver power is on
 - No reference data like time or almanac are available
- Warm Start : < 6 seconds
 - Time required to output first position data since the receiver power is on with the latest satellite almanac data in the receiver's memory
 - Time and almanac related reference data are already known
- Hot Start : < 1 second
 - Receiver has already output position data
 - Time to reacquire an already tracked satellite due to temporary blockage by buildings or trees





Performance Measurement of RTK Accuracy

- A fix error and a variable error with respect to base-length is given
 - Such as : x cm + y ppm
 - Example: 2cm + 1ppm
 - There is a fix error of 2cm plus 1ppm error due to base-length between the Base and Rover
 - 1ppm → 1 parts per million
 - > 1cm of error in 1 million centimeter distance between the Base and the Rover
 - > 1cm of error in 1000000 centimeter distance between the Base and the Rover
 - Icm of error in 10000 meter distance between the Base and the Rover
 - > 1cm of error in 10 kilometer distance between the Base and the Rover
 - Jcm of error for every 10Km of distance between the Base and the Rover
 - > 4cm of error for 40Km of distance between the Base and the Rover
 - Thus the total error is : 2cm + 4cm due to 40Km of base length
 - The longer the base-length, the larger the error
 - Do not assume that this error is linear
 - And it may not be valid for longer base-lines
 - Normally the recommended base-length for RTK for a Geodetic Receiver is 40Km





References























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GPS Skyplots: Tokyo, Jakarta and Maputo Tokyo Base-Station Jakarta Base-Station Maputo B









Maputo Base-Station









GNSS Signal Visibility: Skyplot

