ITS Sensor Transfer Specification

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Abstract

This document describes the desired types and functionality of sensors that need to be considered as the transfer specification is defined. The document also contains the current version of the transfer specification as defined and used within the sensing development activities at NTIA/ITS.

ITS Sensor Transfer Spec

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Transfer Spec Mandate

- **There is a broad set of missions for sensing networks**
- **There is a broad set of requirements for sensors**
- **Multiple sensor types will be needed at different locations and for different missions**
- **Ergo:**

The transfer spec must be general enough to accommodate the most basic of sensors as well as the most sophisticated.

Classes of Sensors

- **Network of stationary, single function sensors**
- **Network of mobile, single function sensors**
  - Live stream
  - Store and forward
- **Network of stationary, programmable sensors**
  - Adaptive Antenna Control
  - Signal Identification Functions
  - Timing and Emitter Location Functions
  - etc.
- **Network of mobile, programmable sensors**
  - Live stream
  - Store and forward

Possible Sensor Network Functions

- **Signal Detection**
- **Signal Identification**
- **Emitter location**
  - Timing constraints
  - Antenna control
- **Emitter tracking**
  - Timing constraints
  - Antenna control
- **Propagation data and control**
- **Environmental Data**

Transfer Spec Functionality

- **Permit Sensor Control**
  - Two way communication
- **Permit Precision Timing of events**
- **Permit real time streaming of data**
- **Enable store and forward connectivity**
- **Permit transfer of location information**
- **Permit various types of data**
  - PSD
  - I/Q
  - Calibration Data
  - Environmental, etc.

Existing Standards

- **VITA49**
  - No two way communication and control
- **IEEE 1900.6**
  - Currently under review
  - Will likely need modification for our requirements
- **802.22.3**

Current ITS Transfer Spec

- **JSON based**

ITS Message Format

- Messages in JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)
- Example LOC message:


```
{
   "version": "1.0.16",
   "messageType": "Loc",
   "sensorId": "101010101",
   "sensorKey": 846859034,
   "time": 987654321,
   "mobility": "Stationary",
   "environment": "Outdoor",
   "latitude": 40.0,
   "longitude": -105.26,
   "altitude": 1655,
   "timeZone": "America_Denver"
}
```

Required Data Fields

- **version = Schema/data transfer version with the major.minor.revision syntax [string]**
- **messageType = Type of JSON message (“Sys”| ”Loc”| “Data”|"Capture-Event") [string of URL unreserved characters]**
- **sensorId = Unique identifier of sensor [string**
- **sensorKey = Authentication key given out by MSOD [integer]**
- **time = Time [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] long [integer]**

Current Message Types

- **Sys Messages**
- **Loc Messages**
- **Data Messages**
- **Capture-Event Messages**

Sys Messages

- **Sys (System) message lists the critical hardware components of the sensor along with relevant RF specifications**

1. **version = Schema/data transfer version with the major.minor.revision syntax [string]**
2. **type = Type of JSON message (”Sys”) [string]**
3. **sensorId = Unique identifier of sensor [string of URL unreserved characters]**
4. **sensorKey = Authentication key given out by MSOD [integer]**
5. **time = Time [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] long [integer]**
6. **antenna = data that describes the antenna (see Antenna object below)**
7. **preselector = data that describes RF hardware components in preselector (see Preselector object below)**
8. **cotsSensor = data that describes the COTS sensor (see COTSsensor object below)**
9. **calibration = data structure that describes the calibration measurement (optional, see Cal object below)**

- **If processed = “False”, then the data streams are:**

10a. noiseSourceOnPowers(n) = Raw measured data vector [dBm ref to input of COTS sensor] when known source is on.

11a. noiseSourceOffPowers(n) = Raw measured data vector [dBm ref to input of COTS sensor] when known source is off.

- **If processed = “True”, then the data streams are:**

10b. noiseFigure(n) = Noise figure [dB] referenced to input of preselector.

11b. gain(n) = System gain [dB] referenced to input of preselector

Loc Messages

- **The Loc message specifies the geolocation of the sensor.**

1. **Ver = Schema/data transfer version with the major.minor.revision syntax [string]**
2. **Type = Type of JSON message (“Loc”) [string]**
3. **SensorID = Unique identifier of sensor [string of URL unreserved characters]**
4. **SensorKey = Authentication key given out by MSOD [integer]**
5. **t = Time [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] [long integer]**
6. **Mobility = Mobility of sensor (“Stationary”| “Mobile”) [string]**
7. **Lat = angle [degrees N] from equatorial plane (0 – 360) [float]**
8. **Lon = angle [degrees E] from Greenwich median (-180 – 180) ([float]**
9. **Alt = height above sea level [float]**
10. **TimeZone = Local time zone identifier (“America/New_York”, “America/Chicago”, “America/Denver”, “America/Phoenix”, or “America/Los_Angeles”) [string]**

Data Messages

- **The Data message contains acquired data from measurements of the environment using an antenna.**

1. **version = Schema/data transfer version with the major.minor.revision syntax [string]**
2. **messageType = Type of JSON message “Data” [string]**
3. **sensorId = Unique identifier of sensor [string of URL unreserved characters]**
4. **sensorKey = Authentication key for the sensor [string]**
5. **time = Time [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] [long integer] in the UTC time zone.**
6. **sysToDetect = System that measurement is designed to detect (“Radar–SPN43”| “LTE”| “None”) [string of URL unreserved characters]**
7. **sensitivity = Sensitivity of the data (“Low” | “Medium” | “High”) [string]**
8. **measurementType = Type of measurement (“Swept-frequency”| “FFT-power”) [string]**
9. **timeOfAcquisition = Time of 1st acquisition in a sequence [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] [long integer] in the UTC time zone.**
10. **acquisitionIndex = Index of current acquisition in a sequence [integer]**
11. **numOfMeasurements = Number of measurements per acquisition [integer]. Not relevant for streaming transfers (set to -1).**
12. **timeBetweenAcquisitions = Imposed time between acquisition starts [float]. This is the time between successive Data messages (not relevant for streaming transfers).**
13. **timeBetweenStreams = Time between spectrums when data is sent as a stream via a tcp socket (relevant for streaming transfers).**
14. **overloadFlag = Overload flag(s) (0 | 1) [integer]**
15. **detectedSysNosiePowers = Detected system noise power [dBm ref to output of isotropic antenna] [float]**
16. **comment [string]**
17. **processed = Indicator on processing of data ("True"|"False") [string]**
18. **dataType = Data type ("Binary–float32", "Binary–int16", "Binary–int8", "ASCII") [string]**
19. **byteOrder = Order of bytes for binary data ("Network" | "Big Endian" | "Little Endian" | "N/A") [string]**
20. **compression = Indicator on compression of data ("Zip" | "None") [string]**
21. **measurementParameters = Measurement parameters (elements listed in Objects section below)**

If processed = “False”, then the data stream is

21a. rawMeasuredPowers(n, nM) = Raw measured data vector [dBm ref to input of COTS sensor]

If processed = “True”, then the data stream is

21b. measuredPowers(n, nM) = Measured power vector [dBm ref to output of isotropic antenna]

Capture-Event Messages

- **The Capture-Event Message is used to POST an asynchronous event from the sensor to the server.**

1. **Ver = Schema/data transfer version with the major.minor.revision syntax [string]**
2. **Type = Type of JSON message “Capture-Event” [string]**
3. **SensorID = Unique identifier of sensor [string of URL unreserved characters]**
4. **SensorKey = Authentication key for the sensor [string]**
5. **t = Time [seconds since Jan 1, 1970 UTC] [long integer] in the UTC time zone.**
6. **Sys2Detect = System that measurement is designed to detect (“Radar–SPN43”| “LTE”| “None”) [string of URL unreserved characters]**
7. **Sensitivity = Sensitivity of the data (“Low” | “Medium” | “High”) [string]**
8. **mType = Type of measurement (“I_Q”) [string]**
9. **DataType = Data type ("Binary–float32", "Binary–int16", "Binary–int8") [string]**
10. **mPar = Measurement parameters (elements listed in Objects section below)**
11. **Decode = Detection results (elements listed in Objects section below)**
12. **sampleCount: Number of captured samples.**

JSON Object Definitions: Antenna

1. Antenna = antennas parameters with elements
2. Model = Make/model (“AAC SPBODA-1080_NFi”| “Alpha AW3232”) [string]
3. fLow = Low frequency [Hz] of operational range [float]
4. fHigh = High frequency [Hz] of operational range [float]
5. g = Antenna gain [dBi] [float]
6. bwH = Horizontal 3-dB beamwidth [degrees] [float]
7. bwV = Vertical 3-dB beamwidth [degrees] [float]
8. AZ = direction of main beam in azimuthal plane [degrees from N] [float]
9. EL = direction of main beam in elevation plane [degrees from horizontal] [float]
10. Pol = Polarization (“VL”| “HL”| “LHC”| “RHC”, “Slant”) [string]
11. XSD = Cross-polarization discrimination [dB] [float]
12. VSWR = Voltage standing wave ratio [float]
13. lCable = Cable loss (dB) for cable connecting antenna and preselector [float]

JSON Object Definitions: Preselector

1. fLowPassBPF = Low frequency [Hz] of filter 1-dB passband [float]
2. fHighPassBPF= High frequency [Hz] of filter 1-dB passband [float]
3. fLowStopBPF = Low frequency [Hz] of filter 60-dB stopband [float]
4. fHighStopBPF = High frequency [Hz] of filter 60-dB stopband [float]
5. fnLNA = Noise figure [dB] of LNA [float]
6. gLNA = Gain [dB] of LNA [float]
7. pMaxLNA = Max power [dBm] at output of LNA, e.g., 1-dB compression point [float]
8. enrND = Excess noise ratio of noise [dB] diode for y-factor calibration

JSON Object Definitions: COTSsensor

1. Model = Make and model ("Agilent N6841A"| "Agilent E4440A"| "CRFS RFeye"| "NI USRP N210"| "ThinkRF WSA5000-108"| "Spectrum Hound BB60C") [string]
2. fLow = LowMinimum frequency [Hz] of operational range [float]
3. fHigh = HighMaximum frequency [Hz] of operational range [float]
4. fn = Noise figure [dB] of COTS sensor in contrast to overall system [float]
5. pMax = Maximum power [dBm at input] of COTS sensor [float]

JSON Object Definitions: Cal

1. CalsPerHour = Number of cals per hour [float]
2. Temp = Measured temperature inside preselctor [F] [float]
3. mType: Type of measurement (“Swept-frequency”, “FFT-power”) [string]
4. nM = Number of measurements per calibration [integer]
5. Processed = Indicator on processing of data ("True"| "False") [string]
6. DataType = Data type ("Binary–float32"| "Binary–int16"| "Binary–int8"| "ASCII") [string]
7. ByteOrder = Order of bytes for binary data ("Network", "Big Endian", "Little Endian", "N/A") [string]
8. Compression = Compression of data ("Zip"| "None") [string]
9. mPar = Measurement parameters (elements listed in Objects section below)

JSON Object Definitions: mPar

1. fStart = Start frequency [Hz] of sweep <Required for swept-freq> [float]
2. fStop = Stop frequency [Hz] of sweep <Required for swept-freq> [float]
3. n = Number of frequencies in sweep <Required for swept-freq> [float]
4. td = Dwell time [s] at each frequency in a sweep <Required for swept-freq> [float]
5. Det = Detector: ("RMS"| "Positive" | "Peak" | "Average") <Required for swept-freq> [string]
6. RBW = Resolution bandwidth [Hz] <Required for swept-freq> [float]
7. VBW = Video bandwidth [Hz] <Required for swept-freq> [float]
8. Atten = COTS sensor attenuation [dB] <Required for swept-freq> [float]
9. SampleRate = Sampling rate [Samples/second] <Required for I/Q capture>
10. fc = Center frequency [Hz] \Required for I/Q capture>

LTE Decode

- **Note: <System2Detect,fStart,fStop> determine the MSOD band for which we are capturing I/Q data. fc and CaptureEvent.sampFreq determine the bandwidth of the I/Q samples. In the case of a swept frequency sensor, there could be several capture events corresponding to a single scan.**
- **Decode = Decoded LTE information**
- **algorithm = Algorithm used for detection ("coherent"|"matched-filter"|"cyclostationary")**
- **The following additional fields are relevant to the "coherent" scheme for LTE detection:**
  - CellID = Cell identification number [integer]
  - SectorID = Sector identification [integer]
  - linktype = ("uplink" | "downlink")

Transfer Mechanism

Secure socket transport

- **Socket Setup**
  - The sensor is a pure client.
  - The client initiates the connection to the server.
- **HTTPS post**
  - Sensors may also intermittently connect and POST data by connecting to the server
- **Database (MSOD) Ingest Process**
  - Not part of the transfer spec

References