XTCE

XML Telemetry & Command Exchange
Tutorial, XTCE Version 1.1

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  – Brief history and background
  – Applicability
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  – A little UML

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• Chapter 3
  – Grouping items into a package description
    • Packets, Minor Frames, etc...

• Chapter 4
  – Command basics in XTCE

• Chapter 5
  – The Forgotten Elements

• Chapter 6
  – Implementing XTCE, natively or for exchange
  – Issues

• Summary
Preface - Brief History and Background

- XTCE 1.0 first published in 2005
  - OMG’s Space Domain Task Force (SDTF) – from 2000
  - { ESA, Boeing Comm. Sat., US AF SMC Det 12/VO – Lockheed Martin } original submitters
    + NASA/GSFC + Harris Corp.

- CCSDS Published XTCE 1.1 in Oct 2007 as Blue Book
  - XTCE 1.1 revved in conjunction w/CCSDS agency review
  - XTCE 1.1 Green Book (overview) 2007
  - XTCE 1.1 Magenta Books (user guide/ccsds tailoring - out or draft available)
  - XTCE 1.2 – early drafts to clean up some minor bugs… nothing official yet

- Goal
  - Provide industry w/standard mechanism for describing telemetry and command streams (principally from satellites)
  - Lower cost and increase validation over traditional formats
    - XML widely adopted by industry, many technologies available to leverage
    - XML Schema provides some validation
  - Support exchange or native format
• XTCE is designed to describe bit-streams
  – “bit-packed” - no markers, or metadata, non-self describing
  – Typical of telemetry & command in historic space domain
  – Focus is really at the packet or minor frame level
    • Although there is an element for “Stream” descriptions
  – For example, CCSDS packet descriptions, telemetry and command
    • Probably not the CCSDS frame, RS, CADU, etc..., (FEP) – outside of XTCE

• Use for Exchange, but...
  – Best in a team scenario where all parties are implementing the same format
  – As this separation increases, 100% exchange is less and less achievable

• Or native format
  – Nothing precludes using XTCE as the native format for toolset that supports to decommutate telemetry or build commands
Preface – Quick XML

• XML
  
  `<Tag>
    <SubTag attribute="Data1"/> <!-- comment: tags are also called elements -->
    Data2
  </Tag>`

• XML Schema
  
  – Rules for defining your tags and attributes
    - Order, optional or not, choice of
    - And their data-types, value ranges
    - And their cardinality (count)
  
  – Validate XML files with your XML Schema using an XML parser

• XTCE is an XML Schema
  
  – Create specific XTCE XML files describing your telemetry and command format
  – Validate XTCE XML files with the XTCE Schema
    - XTCE XML files – aka “Instance documents”
  
  – Exchange: give your XTCE file to your friend
**Preface - Quick UML**

**XTCE Tutorial, Torrance, California, March 23, 2009**

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

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**Generalize**

- "IS A"
- "Subclass"
- "Derive", "Extend",
- "Restrict/Narrow"

**Parent**

**Child**

Child Inherits properties from Parent

- OR overrides properties explicit in the Parent

**Parent**

**Child**

**One**

**Two**

Association

"HAS A"

0-1

{Constraint}

**Note:** various styles of association are present in UML

- Aggregation
- Composition
- Bidirectional/unidirectional

**One** "asks" **Two** to do something

---

**XTCE has an Object Oriented Model in its Container and Command areas**

**Basic UML Diagrams to describe the relationships present in the examples**
Chapter 1 - XTCE Overview

```xml
<SpaceSystem>
  <TelemetryMetaData/>
  <CommandMetaData/>
  <SpaceSystem/>
</SpaceSystem>
```
Chapter 1 – XTCE Overview (Cont’d)

• Space System
  – Element: <SpaceSystem>
    • one or many in a tree configuration
  – Optional child elements for things like date, authors, etc...

```xml
<SpaceSystem>
  <TelemetryMetaData/>
  <CommandMetaData/>
  <SpaceSystem/>
</SpaceSystem>
```
Chapter 1 - XTCE SpaceSystem Tree(s)

XTCE builds SpaceSystem trees – trees may be ONE NODE or MANY
- Each SpaceSystem has its own telemetry/command description area
  - But they can reference others
- Each Org will need to define its SpaceSystem tree structure
Chapter 1 – XTCE Overview (Cont’d)

• Telemetry Items
  – Elements: `<Parameter>` & `<ParameterTypes>` “Parameters”
  – Link Data Type of link info (e.g. integer count)
    • Integer, Float, String, Binary
    • Size in Bits, format (IEEE784, twos complement, etc...), signed/unsigned, bit order, byte order, etc...
  – Host Data Type after conversion to host (e.g. float)
    • Enumerated, String, Binary, Integer, Float, Boolean, Time (absolute/relative), array, aggregate (“struct”)
    • Size in bits, initial value, signed/unsigned, etc...
  – Range of Content (integer/float)
  – Calibration (varies by ParameterType)
  – Alarms (also varies by ParameterType)
<xtce:SpaceSystem name="MyRoot">
  <xtce:TelemetryMetaData/>
  <xtce:CommandMetaData/>
  <xtce:SpaceSystem name="MySubSys1"/>
  <xtce:SpaceSystem name="MySubSys2"/>
  <xtce:SpaceSystem name="MySubSys3">
    <xtce:TelemetryMetaData/>
    <xtce:CommandMetaData/>
    <xtce:SpaceSystem name="MySubSubSys3.1"/>
  </xtce:SpaceSystem>
  <xtce:SpaceSystem>
  <xtce:SpaceSystem>

Note: child elements of SpaceSystem not shown for purposes of illustration
Chapter 1 – XTCE Overview (Cont’d)

• Telemetry Packaging (packets, minor frames)
  – Element: `<SequenceContainer>` “Containers”
  – Specify Sequence of parameters or other containers in the packet/minor frame
    • Optional include condition, addressing and repeat (super-sampling)
    • Size in bits – optional – default: calculated from entries
    • Optional rate of update, bit/byte order, etc...
  – Optionally **EXTEND** another container
    • Element: `<BaseContainer>` and its child `<RestrictionCriteria>` (constraint)
    • Provide name of other container and constraint expression
    • Child inherits certain properties from parent, mainly its entries
    • Use to provide identifying information of packet/minor frame

```xml
<TelemetryMetaData>
  <ParameterSet/>
  <ParameterTypeSet/>
  <ContainerSet>
    <SequenceContainer/>
  </ContainerSet>
</TelemetryMetaData>
```
Chapter 1 – XTCE Overview (Cont’d)

- **Commanding: element `<CommandMetaData>`**
  - Command Parameter and ParameterType
    - Same construction as on telemetry side - ignore alarms
    - Interpreted as host to uplink
    - System supplied information (checksum, etc...)
  - Command Description
    - Element: `<MetaCommand>`
    - Describe command, its arguments, local packaging information verifiers and other related items
    - Child -- **Local Packaging** is called: `<CommandContainer>` (command packet)
    - Child Element: `<Argument>` links to `<ArgumentType>`
    - Similar underlying construction Parameter/ParameterType
      - Interpreted the same way Command Parameters are interpreted
    - Meant to be used for user supplied information (command argument)
  - Command Container `<CommandContainerSet>`
    - Element: `<CommandContainer>`
    - Similar to SequenceContainer, refer to it in MetaCommand/CommandContainer
    - Group common command parameters reused by more than one command
Chapter 1 – XTCE Overview (Cont’d)

• NameReferences
  – Many major XTCE elements refer to other areas in an XML file
  – XTCE’s version of “pointers” are called **NameReferences**
    • Just strings with a specific format: “String Pointers”
  – Several Variations
    • Plain & Unix-like path: `/SpaceSystemName1/SpaceSystemName2/.../itemName`
  – Absolute, relative, and the “no path” (plain) version
    • Note: plain is not global; refers to local SpaceSystem first or up “the SpaceSystem tree” relative to that location
  – Outside of XML parsing unfortunately – you must implement
  – Careful implementation required – used in many XTCE areas:
    • Parameter & ParameterType, Argument and ArgumentType
    • All Containers, MetaCommand, all Comparisons... others?

```
<TelemetryMetaData>
  <ParameterTypeSet>
    <IntegerParameterType name="MyType"/>
  </ParameterTypeSet>
  <ParameterSet>
    <Parameter name="MyParam" parameterType="MyType"/>
  </ParameterSet>
</TelemetryMetaData>
```
Chapter 2 – Describing Telemetry Items

```xml
<SpaceSystem>
  <TelemetryMetaData>
    <ParameterTypeSet/>
    <ParameterSet>
    </TelemetryMetaData>
  <CommandMetaData/>
  <SpaceSystem/>
</SpaceSystem>
```
Chapter 2 – Describing Telemetry Items

<ParameterTypeSet>
  <StringParameterType/>
  <EnumeratedParameterType/>
  <BinaryParameterType/>
  <IntegerParameterType/>
  <FloatParameterType/>
  <BooleanParameterType/>
  <AbsoluteTimeParameterType/>
  <RelativeTimeParameterType/>
  <ArrayParameterType/>
  <AggregateParameterType/>
</ParameterTypeSet>
Chapter 2 – Pattern to (most) ParameterTypes

<StringParameterType>
  <StringDataEncoding/>
  <IntegerDataEncoding/>
  <FloatDataEncoding/>
  <BinaryDataEncoding/>
  <Alarms/>
</StringParameterType>

Link Side Data Encoding: how is the information described on the link?

- Choice of one (or none)
- Not all ParameterType & DataEncoding make sense necessarily
- Alarms and some additional specifics vary by ParameterType
Chapter 2 – ParameterTypes Semantics

- ParameterTypes have the following relationship between information on the “link” and ground
  - and has specific elements and attributes to describe these items

Missions will likely wish to restrict these various elements and attributes for various ParameterType...
Chapter 2 - DataEncodings

• Four options, various details:
  - StringDataEncoding
    • UTF8 or UTF16 encoded Unicode (UTF-16 big endian)
    • Bit size, various ways
  - IntegerDataEncoding
    • Unsigned or TwosComplement (spelled “Compliment” in XTCE!)
    • Bit size
    • bit/byte order
    • Various calibrators such as Linear Calibrator or Polynomial Calibrator optional
  - FloatDataEncoding
    • IEEE-745, MIL1750A
    • Bit size
    • bit/byte order
    • Various calibrators such as Linear Calibrator or Polynomial Calibrator optional
  - BinaryDataEncoding
    • Bit size
    • bit/byte order
    • No cals...

Some additional details left out
## Chapter 2 - DataEncoding – Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Encoding Type</th>
<th>Example XML</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unsigned int, 32 bits</td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:IntegerDataEncoding sizeInBits=&quot;32&quot;/&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two Complement, 8 bits</td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:IntegerDataEncoding encoding=&quot;twosCompliment&quot;/&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Float, 32-bit, IEEE-754</td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:FloatDataEncoding/&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unicode String, UTF-16</td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:StringDataEncoding encoding=&quot;UTF-16&quot;&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;!-- Example: Length in bits is 11 characters --&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;!-- 16-bits per character --&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:SizeInBits&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:Fixed&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:FixedValue&gt;176&lt;/xtce:FixedValue&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;xtce:Fixed&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;/xtce:SizeInBits&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><code>&lt;/xtce:StringDataEncoding&gt;</code></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: defaults are not shown, the parser should provide it, helps keep the file shorter*
Chapter 2 - Telemetry Parameter Types – Reference Diagram

DataEncoding
- StringDataEncoding
- IntegerDataEncoding
- FloatDataEncoding
- BinaryDataEncoding

Encoded Link
Data Type

ValidRange
Check

Calibration
Step

Host
Data Type

Alarm
Check

ParameterType
- String
- Float
- Integer
- Enumeration
- Binary
- Boolean
- Time
- Array, Aggregate
Chapter 2 - ValidRange Check

- ValidRange Check
  - IntegerParameterType and FloatParameterType only

```xml
<xtce:ValidRange minInclusive="0" maxInclusive="100"/>
```

**Ignore for Telemetry side:**
- IntegerParameterType/@validRangeAppliesToCalibrated=(true | false)
- FloatParameterTyype/@validRangeAppliesToCalibrated=(true | false)
Chapter 2 - Telemetry ParameterTypes – Reference Diagram

**DataEncoding**
- StringDataEncoding
- IntegerDataEncoding
- FloatDataEncoding
- BinaryDataEncoding

**ParameterType**
- String
- Float
- Integer
- Enumeration
- Binary
- Boolean
- Time
- Array, Aggregate
Chapter 2 - Calibrators

• Calibrators are defined in the DataEncoding area

• A DefaultCalibrator
  – Just one

• Or ContextCalibrators
  – Many
  – Conditional “Contexts”, user defined

• We’ll look at two common types
  – polynomial (PolynomialCalibrator)
  – line segment (SplineCalibrator)
Chapter 2 - Linear Calibrator

```xml
<xtce:SplineCalibrator>
  <!--Forward (regular) calibration -->
  <xtce:SplinePoint raw="1" calibrated="10"/>
  <xtce:SplinePoint raw="2" calibrated="100"/>
  <xtce:SplinePoint raw="3" calibrated="500"/>
</xtce:SplineCalibrator>
```

There's an optional @order attribute in SplinePoint – this is a typo, ignore
The equation for the calibration is: \( y = -0.0048x^2 + 1.4091x - 48.886 \)

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{<xtce:PolynomialCalibrator>}
& \quad <!-\text{Forward (regular) calibration} \quad --> \\
& \quad <\text{xtce:Term exponent="0" coefficient="-48.886"/}> -48.886 \\
& \quad <\text{xtce:Term exponent="1" coefficient="1.4091"/>} 1.4091x \\
& \quad <\text{xtce:Term exponent="2" coefficient="-0.0048"/>} -0.0048x^2 \\
\text{</xtce:PolynomialCalibrator>}
\end{align*}
\]
Chapter 2 - Telemetry ParameterTypes – Reference Diagram

DataEncoding
- StringDataEncoding
- IntegerDataEncoding
- FloatDataEncoding
- BinaryDataEncoding

Data Type

Encoded Link

Valid Range Check

Calibration Step

Host Data Type

Alarm Check

ParameterType:
- String
- Enumerated
- Binary (catch all)
- Integer
- Float
- Boolean
- AbsoluteTime
- RelativeTime
- Array
- Aggregate (groups of other Parameters)
### Chapter 2 – Accepted ParameterType/DataEncoding Combinations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ParameterType + DataEncoding</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>StringParameterType + StringDataEncoding</td>
<td>Unicode String encoded as either UTF-8 or UTF-16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BooleanParameterType + IntegerDataEncoding</td>
<td>True/False</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EnumeratedParameterType + IntegerDataEncoding</td>
<td>LABEL, VALUE pairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BinaryParameterType + BinaryDataEncoding</td>
<td>Blob data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IntegerParameterType + IntegerDataEncoding</td>
<td>Integers of various well known formats, (\text{one/twos complement, etc…}), Calibrated/uncalibrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AbsoluteTimeParameterType + IntegerDataEncoding</td>
<td>Time, Same for RelativeTimeParameterType, Variation for ASCII format</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate and Array ParameterType</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FloatParameterType + FloatDataEncoding</td>
<td>Floats of well known formats (IEEE/MIL1750A), Calibrated/uncalibrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Integer/FloatParameterType + BinaryDataEncoding</td>
<td>Float/Integer format not in XTCEs default list, Add Ancillary to help document</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FloatParameterType + IntegerDataEncoding</td>
<td>Integer counts to units conversion, Calibrated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others?</td>
<td>not accepted but not illegal!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 2 - Telemetry ParameterTypes – Reference Diagram

DataEncoding
- StringDataEncoding
- IntegerDataEncoding
- FloatDataEncoding
- BinaryDataEncoding

Encoded Link
Data Type

ValidRange
Check

Calibration
Step

Host
Data Type

Alarm
Check

ParameterType
- String
- Float
- Integer
- Enumeration
- Binary
- Boolean
- Time
- Array, Aggregate
Chapter 2 - Alarms

- DefaultAlarm and ContextAlarms also

- A variety of limit checks are available in XTCE and tuned to their ParameterType somewhat:
  - AlarmConditions: check a condition
  - StaticAlarmRanges: compare values against set of ranges
  - ChangeAlarms: Rate or Delta
  - Slight variations for String & Enum alarms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>XTCE Alarm Ranges (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Normal - Inside Least Severe Range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WatchRange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WarningRange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CriticalRange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SevereRange</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More severe ranges clip lower ranges
Chapter 2 – StaticAlarmRange Example

<xtce:StaticAlarmRanges>
  <xtce:WatchRange minInclusive="-2000.0" maxInclusive="5000.0"/>
  <xtce:SevereRange minInclusive="-5000.0" maxInclusive="6000.0"/>
</xtce:StaticAlarmRanges>

Real Ranges:
- Green: -2000.0 > x < 5000.0 – implied
- Watch: x <= -2000.0 or x >= 5000.0
- Severe: x <= -5000.0 or x >= 6000.0

Note: Color designation is not part of XTCE, user dependent
Set up conditions for up to five levels

- The alarm “returns” the highest level triggered
- Simple single conditions, multiple conditions, boolean expressions, custom algorithms

```xml
<xtce:AlarmConditions>
  <xtce:WarningAlarm>
    <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="pressureValue" value="100" comparisonOperator="&gt;"/>
  </xtce:WarningAlarm>
  <xtce:CriticalAlarm>
    <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="pressureValve" value="150" comparisonOperator="&gt;"/>
  </xtce:CriticalAlarm>
  <xtce:SevereAlarm>
    <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="pressureValve" value="175" comparisonOperator="&gt;"/>
  </xtce:SevereAlarm>
</xtce:AlarmConditions>
```
Chapter 2 - ChangeRateAlarms

- Similar to the others in terms of ranges but two choices in one element...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of Change</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Delta Change</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>@changeType</td>
<td>changePerSecond</td>
<td>@changeType</td>
<td>changePerSample</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@changeBasis</td>
<td>absoluteChange</td>
<td>percentageChange</td>
<td>@changeBasis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@spanOfInterestInSamples</td>
<td>ignore</td>
<td>@spanOfInterestInSamples</td>
<td>1 or more</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@spanOfInterestInSeconds</td>
<td>1 or more</td>
<td>@spaceOfInterestInSeconds</td>
<td>ignore</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 2 - ParameterType Examples

integerParameterType

<xtce:IntegerParameterType signed="false" name="CUIAType">
  <xtce:UnitSet/>
  <xtce:IntegerDataEncoding sizeInBits="32"/>
  <xtce:DefaultAlarm>
    <xtce:StaticAlarmRanges>
      <xtce:WatchRange minInclusive="-2000.0" maxInclusive="5000.0"/>
      <xtce:WarningRange minInclusive="-5000.0" maxInclusive="6000.0"/>
    </xtce:StaticAlarmRanges>
  </xtce:DefaultAlarm>
</xtce:IntegerParameterType>
FloatParameterType

<xtce:FloatParameterType sizeInBits="64" name="LightType">
    <xtce:UnitSet>
        <xtce:Unit description="Bq">Becquerel</xtce:Unit>
    </xtce:UnitSet>
    <xtce:IntegerDataEncoding sizeInBits="16" encoding="twosCompliment">
        <xtce:DefaultCalibrator>
            <xtce:SplineCalibrator>
                <xtce:SplinePoint raw="-32768.0" calibrated="0.0"/>
                <xtce:SplinePoint raw="0.0" calibrated="5.0"/>
                <xtce:SplinePoint raw="32767.0" calibrated="20.0"/>
            </xtce:SplineCalibrator>
        </xtce:DefaultCalibrator>
    </xtce:IntegerDataEncoding>
</xtce:FloatParameterType>
Chapter 2 - TelemetryMetaData – Context

SpaceSystem Root
- name, date, revision
- Author
- Notes
- History

Optional

all things telemetry

Converted data type, link info, cal/limits
Specific telemetry item name, pointer to Type
Packaging info for sets of telemetry (Packets)
Chapter 2 – Parameter: “Points” to a ParameterType

- Parameter
  - Holds a name – in your name format “BAV10089-B”
  - And a “string pointer” – a Ref – to a ParameterType
  - And an optional “ParameterProperties/@dataSource” attribute
    - Telemetered (default – cmd side ignore)
    - Derived, local, etc...
  - ParameterTypes may be shared by different Parameters...

```
<xtce:ParameterTypeSet>
  <xtce:IntegerParameterType name="MyParameterType"/>
</xtce:ParameterTypeSet>
<xtce:ParameterSet>
  <xtce:Parameter name="BAV10089-B" parameterTypeRef="MyParameterType"/>
</xtce:ParameterSet>
```
Chapter 3 - TelemetryMetaData – Context

SpaceSystem Root
- name, date, revision
- Author
- Notes
- History

Optional

<xtce:SpaceSystem>
  <xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
    <xtce:ParameterTypeSet/>
    <xtce:ParameterSet/>
    <xtce:ContainerSet/>
  </xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
</xtce:SpaceSystem>

← all things telemetry
← Converted data type, link info, cal/limits
← Specific telemetry item name, pointer to Type
← Packaging info for sets of telemetry (Packets)
Chapter 3 - XTCE Containers

• Use to represent “memory layout” of Parameters
  – EntryList specifies content and layout:
    • Default: items are “packed” back to back
    • Width taken from ParameterType (look up Parameter, then its Type)
  – Element: `<SequenceContainer>`
    • Very general, may refer to other SeqContainers, Parameters

```xml
<SequenceContainer name="MyDataBlock">
  <EntryList>
    <ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="P1"/>
    <ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="P2"/>
    <ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="P3"/>
  </EntryList>
</SequenceContainer>
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Memory Layout</th>
<th>MyDataBlock</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 3 - Entry Addressing

- Location of the entry is an integer value referenced from:
  - The end of the previous entry to the start of This Entry (default)
  - The start of the container to the start of This Entry (containerStart)
  - The end of the container to the end of This Entry (containerEnd)
  - The start of the next entry to the end of this entry (nextEntry)
• Use Containers to describe groups of Parameters
  – Headers
  – Packet Bodies
  – Shared groupings of parameters

• EntryList: ParameterRefs, ContainerRefs (others not covered but similar in concept)

```xml
<xtce:ParameterTypeSet>
  <xtce:IntegerParameterType name="MyParameterType"/>
</xtce:ParameterTypeSet>
<xtce:ParameterSet>
  <xtce:Parameter name="MyParameter" parameterTypeRef="MyParameterType"/>
</xtce:ParameterSet>
<xtce:SequenceContainer name="MyPacket">
  <xtce:EntryList>
    <xtce:ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="MyParameter"/>
  </xtce:EntryList>
</xtce:SequenceContainer>
```
The EntryList defines the Parameters in the Container (**parameterRefEntry**)

- Each entry has implied back-to-back addressing info
  - Various options like **absolute** addressing can be given
- The bit-width of each is taken from its ParameterType/DataEncoding size
- These two together define layout

```xml
<xtce:EntryList>
  <xtce:ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="Parameter1">
    <xtce:LocationInContainerInBits referenceLocation="containerStart">
      <xtce:FixedValue>0</xtce:FixedValue>
    </xtce:LocationInContainerInBits>
  </xtce:ParameterRefEntry>

  <xtce:ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="Parameter2">
    <xtce:LocationInContainerInBits referenceLocation="containerStart">
      <xtce:FixedValue>64</xtce:FixedValue>
    </xtce:LocationInContainerInBits>
  </xtce:ParameterRefEntry>
</xtce:EntryList>
```
Chapter 3 – Container Inheritance

- Use Container Inheritance to fully describe a packet or minor frame
- Containers may EXTEND another Container (aka “Container Inheritance”)
  - BaseContainer child element
    - Supply the Parent or “Super” Container Ref
    - Supply “Constraints” – a set of conditions that must be true for this description
      - Conditions are usually Parameters in the Parent Container
      - The condition Parameters are probably IDENTIFYING areas of a packet/minor frame:
        » Ex. CCSDS Land:
        » APID
        » Packet Length
        » SCID, VCID (note: these are not in packet header!)
- Conceptually somewhat similar to Class Inheritance
  - Extending Container gets some things from Parent
    - Principally the EntryList
  - Or it may override some things
    - A few of the other elements in Container (Size)
- Simplified UML Class Diagrams useful to show relationship between containers
MyPacket

The constraints allow one to match incoming bits with these descriptions – whether literally or conceptually.

Properties:
- Abstract
- Header Fields
  - APID, Length

Identifying Areas:
- APID, Length
- SCID, VCID

Properties:
- Packet parameters

The constraints allow one to match incoming bits with these descriptions – whether literally or conceptually.
The XTCE constructions:

```xml
<xtce:SequenceContainer name="MyFormat" abstract="true">
  <xtce:EntryList>
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="APID">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="LEN">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P1">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P2">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P3">
  </xtce:EntryList>
</xtce:SequenceContainer>

<xtce:SequenceContainer name="MyPacket">
  <xtce:EntryList>
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="APID">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="LEN">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P1">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P2">
    <xtce:ParameterEntryRef parameterRef="P3">
  </xtce:EntryList>

<xtce:BaseContainer containerRef="MyFormatPacket">
  <xtce:RestrictionCriteria>
    <xtce:ComparisonList>
      <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="APID" value="100"/>
      <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="LEN" value="300"/>
      <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="SCID" value="154"/>
      <xtce:Comparison parameterRef="VCID" value="3"/>
    </xtce:ComparisonList>
  </xtce:RestrictionCriteria>
</xtce:BaseContainer>
</xtce:SequenceContainer>
```

**MyPacket**

**MyFormat IS A SequenceContainer**

**MyPacket IS A MyFormat**

**Identifying Constraints**

NOTE: SCID and VCID are Session Variables, supplied by the System in this construction – NOT SHOWN
Child Element of SpaceSystem

SpaceSystem Root
- name, date, revision
- Author
- Notes
- History

SpaceSystem
- name

Optional

<xtce:SpaceSystem>
<xtce:TelemetryMetaData/>
<xtce:CommandMetaData/>
</xtce:SpaceSystem>
Chapter 4 - CommandMetaData

Command Descriptions

• XTCE CommandMetaData shares many elements with TelemetryMetaData
  – ParameterSet and ParameterTypeSet are exactly the same
  – ArgumentTypeSet is similar to ParameterTypeSet
  – CommandContainerSet is the same as ContainerSet

• This section then will focus on the differences between the telemetry and command side
  – Most of what has just been presented for telemetry is the same for commanding... but not all of it
  – Some items which of the same construction have a slightly different meaning
<xtce:SpaceSystem>
  <xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
    <xtce:ParameterTypeSet/>
    <xtce:ParameterSet/>
    <xtce:ContainerSet/>
  </xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
  <xtce:CommandMetaData>
    <xtce:ParameterTypeSet/>
    <xtce:ParameterSet/>
    <xtce:ArgumentTypeSet/>
    <xtce:MetaCommandSet/>
    <xtce:CommandContainerSet/>
  </xtce:CommandMetaData>
</xtce:SpaceSystem>
• Command ParameterTypes are the same construction as Telemetry ParameterTypes
• ArgumentTypes are similar construction to Telemetry ParameterType as well
• However the exact relationship of sub-elements is different, as follows:
  – Order is interpreted differently than telemetry – calibrators are “reverse” (aka raw to units)
  – No alarms under ArgumentTypes, they exist under Command ParameterTypes...
    • But probably shouldn’t
  – Valid Range may be in one of two places depending on @validRangeAppliesToCalibrated value

ParameterType
-String
-Float
-Integer
-Enumeration
-Binary
-Time
-Array/Aggregate

DataEncoding
-StringDataEncoding
-IntegerDataEncoding
-FloatDataEncoding
-BinaryDataEncoding

• Generally the various accepted combinations Type/DataEncoding are the same for Telemetry ParameterTypes
• ValidRange is slightly different, and no alarms should be specified
<xtce:SpaceSystem>
  <xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
    <xtce:ParameterTypeSet/>
    <xtce:ParameterSet/>
    <xtce:ContainerSet/>
  </xtce:TelemetryMetaData>
  <xtce:CommandMetaData>
    <xtce:ParameterTypeSet/>
    <xtce:ParameterSet/>
    <xtce:ArgumentTypeSet/>
    <xtce:MetaCommandSet>
      <xtce:MetaCommand>
        <xtce:ArgumentList/>
      </xtce:MetaCommand>
    </xtce:MetaCommandSet>
    <xtce:CommandContainerSet/>
  </xtce:CommandMetaData>
</xtce:SpaceSystem>
Chapter 4 - Command Parameters and Argument Differences

• In XTCE Parameters are something set by the System (e.g. a Checksum)

• While an Argument is set the by user
  – Subsystem destination for example, cmd specific

• Arguments are defined local to a Command
  – They are associated with the MetaCommand Element

• Other than this the two are very similar
  – Arguments Ref ArgumentTypes, Parameters Ref ParameterTypes
  – And they are constructed by closely related Schema Types
    • So they have virtually the same elements and attributes within
Chapter 4 - Context Diagram

**ParameterType**
- String
- Float
- Integer
- Enumeration
- Binary
- Time
- Array/Aggregate

**DataEncoding**
- StringDataEncoding
- IntegerDataEncoding
- FloatDataEncoding
- BinaryDataEncoding
• ValidRange in Commanding
  – Unlike Telemetry -- can be set to apply BEFORE the command or AFTER the command (but not both)
  
  • BEFORE
    – leave attribute validRangeAppliesToCalibrated true (default)
  
  • AFTER
    – set attribute validRangeAppliesToCalibrated to false
MetaCommand/CommandContainer is a LOCAL CommandContainer for Commands
• Build Command Packets here!
• Use the MetaCommand element to describe Commands
  – Supply Command Arguments
  – A local Container for their Packets
  – Add Verifiers, Interlock, Priority, various constraints, side effects
  – And use **MetaCommand Inheritance** to build up the Command
    • Similar to Container Inheritance

• Use the local MetaCommand/CommandContainer to build its Packet (or Minor Frame)
  – Reference Command Parameters
  – Reference Command Arguments
  – And it may Reference other CommandContainers (CommandContainerSet)
  – Also has Inheritance Mechanism similar to Container Inheritance
Chapter 4 – Command Inheritance

- A MetaCommand may EXTEND another
  - One Command may EXTEND another
  - BaseMetaCommand
    - Give the Ref of the MetaCommand being extended

- The extending command can add arguments
  - It gets any Parent arguments and adds its own

- Or it can set arguments in the Parent’s Command
  - MetaCommand/BaseMetaCommand/ArgumentAssignmentList

\[
\text{Example}
\]

\[
\text{PowerCommand}
- \text{Arg1: SubSystemName}
- \text{Arg2: DeviceName}
- \text{Arg3: State \{ON\|OFF\}}
\]

\[
\text{PowerCommandHeaterOn}
- \text{Arg1: SubSystemName=ThermalControl}
- \text{Arg2: DeviceName=Heater1}
- \text{Arg3: State=ON}
- \text{Arg4: TemperatureCutoff \{Fahrenheit\}}
\]

\[
\text{PowerCommandHeaterOff}
- \text{Arg1: SubSystemName=ThermalControl}
- \text{Arg2: DeviceName=Heater1}
- \text{Arg3: State=OFF}
- \text{Arg4: Override \{true\|default=false\}}
\]
Chapter 4 – Command Inheritance in XTCE

PowerCommand
-Arg1: SubSystemName
-Arg2: DeviceName
-Arg3: State {ON|OFF}

HeaterOn
-Arg1: SubSystemName=ThermalControl
-Arg2: DeviceName=Heater1
-Arg3: State=ON
-Arg4: TemperatureCutoff {Fahrenheit}

HeaterOff
-Arg1: SubSystemName=ThermalControl
-Arg2: DeviceName=Heater1
-Arg3: State=OFF
-Arg4: Override {true|default=false}
• MetaCommand has a local CommandContainer
  – MetaCommand/CommandContainer
  – It’s similar to the other Containers but DIFFERENT
    • It has a FixedValueEntry to hard code a value
    • It has an ArgumentRefEntry for Arguments
    • It has a BaseContainer but its RestrictionCriteria is optional
    • It has no abstract attribute either!

• Use it to build the Packet or Minor Frame associated with the MetaCommand
  – Any Arguments must be reflected in the EntryList
  – FixedValueEntry might be used to hold opcodes, etc...
  – Any Parameters, that is their values, are supplied by the system (conceptually)
    • And put on the link as is specified in the DataEncoding
MetaCommand's CommandContainer in XTCE

```xml
<xtce:MetaCommand name="PowerCommand" abstract="true">
  <xtce:ArgumentList>
    <xtce:Argument name="SubSystemName" argumentTypeRef="SubSysEnumType"/>
    <xtce:Argument name="DeviceName" argumentTypeRef="DeviceEnumType"/>
    <xtce:Argument name="State" argumentTypeRef="StateEnumType"/>
  </xtce:ArgumentList>
  <xtce:CommandContainer name="PowerCommandPacket">
    <xtce:EntryList>
      <xtce:FixedValueEntry binaryValue="00a0" sizeInBits="16"/>
      <xtce:ParameterRefEntry parameterRef="Checksum"/>
      <xtce:ArgumentRefEntry argumentRef="SubSystemName"/>
      <xtce:ArgumentRefEntry argumentRef="DeviceName"/>
      <xtce:ArgumentRefEntry argumentRef="State"/>
    </xtce:EntryList>
  </xtce:CommandContainer>
</xtce:MetaCommand>
```

- Packet name for example
- "OpCode" for example
- Check sum, calculated by the system, inserted here before uplink
- The arguments – order does not have to match ArgumentList but they should all be here...
• A MetaCommand/CommandContainer may EXTEND another
  – Another MetaCommand/CommandContainer that is...
  – Similar to Container inheritance in the rest of XTCE
  – But...
    • RestrictionCriteria is optional

• Use it when extending another MetaCommand
  – Must EXPLICITLY set extending MetaCommand/CommandContainer/BaseContainer to the Parent’s MetaCommand/CommandContainer
    • (easier to visualize than explain)
<xtce:MetaCommand name="PowerCommand" abstract="true">
  <xtce:ArgumentList>
    <xtce:Argument name="SubSystemName" argumentTypeRef="SubSysEnumType"/>
    <xtce:Argument name="DeviceName" argumentTypeRef="DeviceEnumType"/>
    <xtce:Argument name="State" argumentTypeRef="StateEnumType"/>
  </xtce:ArgumentList>
  <xtce:CommandContainer name="PowerCommandPacket">
    <xtce:EntryList>
      <xtce:FixedValueEntry binaryValue="00a0" sizeInBits="16"/> <!-- opcode -->
    </xtce:EntryList>
  </xtce:CommandContainer>
</xtce:MetaCommand>

<xtce:MetaCommand name="HeaterOn">
  <xtce:ArgumentList>
    <Argument name="TemperatureCutoff" argumentTypeRef="FloatType"/>
  </xtce:ArgumentList>
  <xtce:BaseMetaCommand metaCommandRef="PowerCommand">
    <xtce:ArgumentAssignmentList>
      <xtce:ArgumentAssignment argumentName="SubSystemName" argumentValue="ThermalControl"/>
      <xtce:ArgumentAssignment argumentName="DeviceName" argumentValue="Heater1"/>
      <xtce:ArgumentAssignment argumentName="State" argumentValue="ON"/>
    </xtce:ArgumentAssignmentList>
    <xtce:CommandContainer name="HeaterOnPacket">
      <xtce:EntryList/>
      <xtce:BaseContainer containerRef="PowerCommandPacket"/>
    </xtce:CommandContainer>
  </xtce:BaseMetaCommand>
</xtce:MetaCommand>
MetaCommand
CommandContainer Inheritance
in XTCE w/RestrictionCriteria

Chapter 4 -

MetaCommand

CommandContainer

Inheritance

System supplies the value for OpCode...

But checks the value here in this constraint...
?Opcode == 0xa0?

Simple constraints of the style "parameter == value" could be automatically processed to essentially inform the system the values that MUST be supplied in the named parameters. You are encouraged to stick with that form for this reason but this is not required.
A MetaCommand may EXTEND another: MyCmd extends BasicCommand above
Their local CommandContainers extend each other: MyCmdPacket extends BasicCommandPacket
• Constraints are optional here
Chapter 4 - Commanding: Other Items

- XTCE includes these items in MetaCommand:
  - TransmissionConstraint - `<TransmissionConstraintList>`
    - Check cmd can be run
      - Implied blockage if constraints fail
  - Significance - `<DefaultSignificance>, <ContextSignificanceList>`
    - Permission/confirmations
  - Interlock
    - Constraints on the next command
  - Verification -- `<VerifierSet>`
    - Variety of command verification by stages
  - Side Effects – `<ParameterToSetList>`
    - Side effects after command sent
      - E.g. Command Counter, etc...
  - Suspend Alarms until... `<ParameterToSuspendAlarmsSet>`
    - Suspend named parameters while cmd takes effect
CommandContainerSet is NOT the same thing as MetaCommand/CommandContainer
Chapter 4 – CommandContainerSet

- Built using the same XTCE Schema-types as ContainerSet in TelemetryMetaData...
- Generally meant to be used as the “pieces/parts” of MetaCommand/CommandContainers
  - Chunks of command parameters that repeat or reused by various commands
- A “has a” relationship

For example – perhaps a Command Packet has an optional secondary header
- Constraint: Secondary Header Flag must be 1
Chapter 5 – The Forgotten Elements

• Lesser used major elements include:
  – TelemetryMetaData/MessageSet
  – StreamSet
  – AlgorithmSet
  – ServiceSet
Chapter 5 - MessageSet

- Deprecated...

- Essentially an alternative way to build a Packet or Minor Frame...
  - A purely “HAS A” relationship to Containers
  - Retained from an earlier version of XTCE
Chapter 5 - StreamSet – Streams

• A set of elements to describe aspects of “bit streams”
  – Possibly could be used for portions of frame description, etc...

• May be included in containers directly
  – Perhaps a special “sub-stream” in a container

• CCSDS – not quite enough elements to FULLY describe the “CCSDS stack” from the frame-sync to packets
  – Lacks RS encoding info for example
  – Generally focus on packet descriptions and leave the FEP for others

• Links to a container
  – Probably a “super container” representing the frame...
    • w/derived child container representing specific packets

• Or links to a service
  – Services are abstractions, perhaps a service has certain streams within it...
Chapter 5 – AlgorithmSet

- Used to describe algorithms used in your tlm/cmd processing
  - Many options – from actually including code text, to simply the name of a function...

- Two forms:
  - Custom: functions, methods, procedures...
  - Math: equations using postfix notation...
• An abstraction – groups “logically like” Containers

• For example:
  – Suppose your mission splits its functionality across multiple CCSDS Virtual Channels
  – Each Channel may represent a “service”
  – A Service element could be defined and the list of Containers for each APID in the service (VCID) added
    • Options:
      – point to the “super container” per channel
      – Point to each “final” packet container
      – Point to all the containers making up packets on those channels…
      – Etc…?
    – Totally user defined…
• A number of ways to implement XTCE
  – #1 - XSLTs, XPath, etc...
  – #2 - DOM or SAX custom parser
  – #3 - Data-type mapper (XTCE Schema Type to Programming language Classes – “Autogenerators”)
  – #4 - Combination

• Focus on #3
  – Numerous “autogenerators”
    • Eclipse IDE EMF (Java used)
    • XMLSpy Enterprise (built-in, Java: used)
    • JAXB – now part of Java distro (used)
    • Others: XMLBeans, Castor, …, many others (& other languages)
  – Items to Look For:
    • The order of certain XTCE elements is important
    • Native support or easy bail out to low level processing
      – Ex. Entry order means something
      – Comments or other schema items may not be available directly in mapping
    • Method for determining if attribute value is from a default value or set directly in XML
  – It would be nice but general support seems lacking:
    • DOM ↔ Your Mapped Classes
    • Reason: other XML APIs may sit on DOM
    • Some (minimal) support in JAXB
    • Old XMLSpy mapper sat on top of DOM, not sure of new ones
    • EMF uses its own ECore…
Chapter 6 – A Quick Look at JAXB

- JAXB – Java Architecture for XML Binding
  - Will map your XML Schema (i.e. XTCE) to Java Classes
    - Has additional features including “binding” configuration file
- Used to implement most of GSFC XTCE prototype software
  - Plusses:
    - Java Generics and Collections well supported
    - Mapping tunable w/config file
    - Now part of official distribution
      - Everyone has it that downloads Java
    - Some support for DOM nodes
      - But not built on DOM (that I can tell!)
  - Misses:
    - Can’t seem to parse or build comments
    - Can’t convert any unmarshalled object to a DOM node
      - But seem to be able convert any DOM node to a marshalled object
  - ...?
XML Schema DataType → Mapping to Java Type or Class
(some)

Examples

xsd:string → java.lang.String
xsd:integer → java.math.BigInteger
...
xsd:dateTime → javax.xml.datatype.XMLGregorianCalendar
...
xsd:double → double

Etc…
**Chapter 6 - JAXB Ex. XTCE SchemaType to Java**

### XTCE SpaceSystemType

```xml
<complexType name="SpaceSystemType" mixed="false">
  <complexContent mixed="false">
    <extension base="xtce:NameDescriptionType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="Header" type="xtce:HeaderType" minOccurs="0" />
        <element name="TelemetryMetaData" type="xtce:TelemetryMetaDataType" minOccurs="0" />
        <element name="CommandMetaData" type="xtce:CommandMetaDataType" minOccurs="0" />
        <element name="ServiceSet" minOccurs="0">
          <complexType>
            <sequence>
              <element name="Service" type="xtce:ServiceType" maxOccurs="unbounded" />
            </sequence>
          </complexType>
        </element>
        <element ref="xtce:SpaceSystem" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded" />
      </sequence>
      <attribute name="operationalStatus" type="token" use="optional" />
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

### XTCE SpaceSystemType Java Class

```java
public class SpaceSystemType extends NameDescriptionType {
  protected HeaderType header;
  protected TelemetryMetaDataType telemetryMetaData;
  protected CommandMetaDataType commandMetaData;
  protected SpaceSystemType.ServiceSet serviceSet;
  protected String operationalStatus;
  public HeaderType getHeader() { return header; }
  public void setHeader(HeaderType value) { this.header = value; }
  public boolean isSetHeader() { return (this.header != null); }
  public TelemetryMetaDataType getTelemetryMetaData() {
    return telemetryMetaData;
  }
  public void setTelemetryMetaData(TelemetryMetaDataType value) {
    this.telemetryMetaData = value;
  }
  public boolean isSetTelemetryMetaData() {
    return (this.telemetryMetaData != null); }
  public CommandMetaDataType getCommandMetaData() {
    return commandMetaData;
  }
  public void setCommandMetaData(CommandMetaDataType value) {
    this.commandMetaData = value;
  }
  public boolean isSetCommandMetaData() {
    return (this.commandMetaData != null); }
}

// … DELETED FOR SPACE REASONS
```

Note: items edited to fit….
import javax.xml.bind.JAXBContext;
import javax.xml.bind.JAXBElement;
import javax.xml.bind.Marshaller;
import org.omg.space.xtce.ObjectFactory;
import org.omg.space.xtce.SpaceSystemType;

public class SimpleSpaceSystem {
    public static void main(String[] args) {
        JAXBElement<SpaceSystemType> spaceRoot;
        JAXBContext jc;
        Marshaller marshaller;
        ObjectFactory factory;
        try {
            jc = JAXBContext.newInstance("org.omg.space.xtce");
            marshaller = jc.createMarshaller();
            marshaller.
                setProperty("com.sun.xml.internal.bind.namespacePrefixMapper",
                           new XTCEPrefixMapper());
            marshaller.
                setProperty(Marshaller.JAXB_SCHEMA_LOCATION,
                           "http://www.omg.org/space/xtce SpaceSystemV1.1.xsd");
            marshaller.
                setProperty(Marshaller.JAXB_FORMATTED_OUTPUT,
                           new Boolean(true));
            factory = new ObjectFactory();
            SpaceSystemType space = factory.createSpaceSystemType();
            space.setName("HelloWorld");
            spaceRoot = factory.createSpaceSystem(space);
            marshaller.marshal(spaceRoot, System.out);
        } catch (Exception e) { e.printStackTrace(); }
    }

    Note: XTCEPrefixMapper not shown

    <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="yes"?>
    <xtce:SpaceSystem xmlns:xtce="http://www.omg.org/space/xtce"
                      xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
                      name="HelloWorld"
                      xsi:schemaLocation="http://www.omg.org/space/xtce SpaceSystemV1.1.xsd"/>

Chapter 6 – Harder XTCE Items to Implement

• General NameReferences and NameReference Instances
  – All “refs” should point to something valid: you must implement this
  – Absolute addresses: /a/b/c and various forms of relative addresses: ../b/c, a/..../b, etc...
  – “Path-less” nameRefs which may involve a partial tree search: c
  – Instances: Adds array syntax: /c[1], And aggregate syntax: /a/b/c.subField
    • And relates to some sort of “instance table”

• Container Inheritance, EntryList, IncludeConditions, etc...
  – Various general aspects of inheritance, EntryList addressing
    • Multiple levels, containerRefs that themselves have inheritance, and so on

• XTCE Type Inheritance

• Dynamic Container Match & NextContainer
  – Never been implemented yet that we are aware of...

(a few more not mentioned)

But wait, I have to implement all of those? Depends...
Chapter 6 – Native Implementation

• An implementation that uses XTCE internal to a toolchain
  – Gets packet stream on input, uses XTCE to pull-apart into host-side telemetry items
  – Or build cmds for uplink using definitions to supply args, values & format

• High degree of automation or self-configuration possible
  – Possibly implement every feature of XTCE
    • Thus potentially ingesting ANY XTCE file that is correct to self-configure software for any incoming data stream
    – But of course one can always constrain or restrict XTCE support if necessary

• Implementations?
  – Some aspects of GSFC prototype software falls into this category...
  – But never used to actually decommutate binary packet data (yet)
  – University of Bremen (Germany) implementation used XTCE to configure itself for decommutating binary packet file
    • Demo’d ... but source?
Chapter 6 – Exchange Implementations

• 100% XTCE Exchange between teams using same features
  – Agreement ahead of time on which features of XTCE to use
  – Depends somewhat on hardware of team members
    • If controlled or standardized between members: 100% exchange possible

• As these agreement don’t exist, 100% exchange is not possible without
  COMMON AGREEMENTS
  – Ex. Extreme case: I support only telemetry, you support only Commands. Our XTCE files are
    100% incompatible!
  – But even differing formats may offer partial exchange
    • NASA CCSDS & ESA PUS Mission were able to exchange the majority of telemetry metadata
      even though basic packet formats ultimately differ... but it took some work

• Implementations?
  – GSFC JWST Translator
  – CNES “Best” Suite
  – ESA Cryosat...
  – Several others... mostly on the “Customer” side – (NASAs of the world)
• **Now:**
  – Determine exchangees (team members), agree on common “flavor” of XTCE features

• **Future:**
  – Industry agreed upon flavors, pick the category you fall into...

• **Develop common XTCE usage “constraints” to format**
  – CCSDS is a “format” but stops at the header
  – You have to get down deeper Examples:
    • Polynomials, # of coefficients
    • Alarm levels
    • Floating point sizes and formats
    • Bit/byte ordering...
    • Etc..., etc..., etc...

• **Implement to these constraints & 100% exchange is possible between team members, institutions, and so forth**
Chapter 6 – Automating Exchange?

- Write XTCE constraints in a computer processable manner
- Process constraints to configure validation software
  - Use in conjunction with XML Parsing to validate XML in “your” XTCE
- Process constraints to configure “XTCE builder” software
  - An API that only allows XTCE files to be constructed in “your” flavor
- Are all constraints describable in a computer processable manner?
  
???
- Is this an additional area of standardization?
Summary

• XTCE is a large schema with many advanced features for most tlm/cmd systems
  – XML, Object Oriented Model for “packaging descriptions” and Commands

• Native Implementers may implement every facet of XTCE
  – Self-configuration and automation may be high

• Exchange Implementers may contend with “flavors”
  – Ensure team members are on the same page: common XTCE constraints
  – Some level of automation may be possible, process constraints automatically
    • Generate “constraint validation” and “builder” tool

• Move towards industry standard flavors
~Backup Slides~
The Command:
• An abstraction for “people”, includes arguments for them to set
• Its Packet, the real bits that make up the command for uplink

Although the command itself is an abstraction, its packet is a bit-packed construct
• That’s inner box in the diagram here
• Arguments – arguments to the command
  – MetaCommand/ArgumentList element

• CommandContainer – private container for describing the command packaging (but can “see” ContainerSet and CommandContainerSet)
  – MetaCommand/CommandContainer element

• Inheritance – one metacommand may extend (“sub-class”, derive) another
  – BaseMeta element

![Diagram showing metacommand inheritance and argument setting]

**Sets State to ON**
- MetaCmd Inheritance, Child can set Parent’s arguments

*Not Shown: private MyOnCommandPacket Container also inherits from MyCommandPacket Container*
Chapter 4 – Basic Command Packet Pattern

MetaCmd - BasicCommand

BasicCommand Packet

MetaCmd - MyCmd

MyCmd Packet

Note: MyCmd Packet EXPLICITLY extend BasicCommand Packet in XTCE, NOT SHOWN
MyCmd Packet EXTENDS BasicCommand Packet - link must be explicitly set
-Constraints are optional
-Constraints are probably identifying area of Command Packet: values inserted into stream
Chapter 4 - MetaCommand Inheritance

The MetaCommand Part

```
<xtce:MetaCommand name="BasicCommand" abstract="true">
    <xtce:CommandContainer name="BasicCommandPacket"/>
</xtce:MetaCommand>
```

"BasicCommand IS A MetaCommand"

```
<xtce:MetaCommand name="MyCmd">
    <xtce:BaseMetaCommand metaCommandRef="BasicCommand"/>
    <xtce:CommandContainer name="MyCommandPacket"/>
</xtce:MetaCommand>
```

"MyCmd IS A BasicCommand"

```
Note: args/details not shown
```

The MetaCommand /CommandContainer Part

"BasicCommandPacket IS A MetaCommand/CommandContainer"

"MyCommandPacket IS A BasicCommandPacket"

```
Note: details left out for illustrative purposes
```
<xtce:MetaCommand name="BasicCommand" abstract="true">
  <xtce:CommandContainer name="BasicCommandPacket"/>
</xtce:MetaCommand>

<xtce:MetaCommand name="MyCmd">
  <xtce:BaseMetaCommand metaCommandRef="BasicCommand">
    <xtce:CommandContainer name="MyCommandPacket"/>
    <xtce:BaseContainer containerRef="BasicCommandPacket"/>
  </xtce:CommandContainer>
</xtce:MetaCommand>

"MyCommandPacket IS A BasicCommandPacket"

"BasicCommandPacket IS A MetaCommand/CommandContainer"

Note: Identifying Constraints not shown, similar to Telemetry, but semantics are values are inserted into stream
Although the command itself is an abstraction, its packet is a bit-packed construct.