



James Webb Space Telescope XML Database and CCSDS XTCE

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First image on JWST flight prototype near-infrared detectors



Observatory



- JWST mission under development by NASA (launch planned for 2013) with major contributions from European and Canadian Space Agencies. The mission is designed to address four science themes:
 - 1. Observation of the first luminous objects after the Big Bang
 - 2. Assembly of these objects into galaxies
 - 3. Birth of stars and planetary systems
 - 4. Formation of planets and origins of life



• The JWST ground segment is **an open adaptable architecture** that will be used to support evolving requirements for a mission with 20-year development and operational cycles, with multiple ground systems in multiple locations.





Full Scale JWST Model







JWST Ops-Business case



- Ops is critical to JWST success
- Maximize Observing efficiency, by minimizing idle/ overhead time
 - Cost to build 4 billion dollars/
 - 5 year mission with 10 year design goal
 - = 2.1 Million dollars a day
- Smooth I&T to Ops transition Script and data base conversion took up to six months
- I & T cryo is costly, avoid data and script conversion (each conversion can add weeks to I&T schedule)
- Development Flight Software architecture uses one central Instrument computer, serves 4 instruments to address thermal considerations.
 - PRD used to coordinate between:
 - FSW, On board operational scripts, C&T, other SOC subsystems



Organization







Organization



- Ops included early in life cycle
- Commitment from Project Manager to ops:
 - C&T and PRD are level II requirements issued as part of RFP
 - Provide common SW development environment to Science instruments
- Implement best practices and lesson learned form HST, EOS, and SMEX missions
- Implemented adaptive architecture with follow items:
 - Flight Operations elements used during I&T:
 - command & telemetry
 - engineering decommutation
 - front end processor
 - Science processing
 - On board operations script engine (JAVA script)
 - FSW (Rational Rose)
 - Project reference data (PRD), Used by all above elements
 - "You are implementing all the things we dream about in other missions"



Evolution of the Ground System



Development and I&T ground systems built around eventual operations core components: Flight Operations System (FOS) and Project Reference Database System (PRDS)





Open Ground System Architecture



- Open Adaptable Architecture Themes
 - Intent is to 'test-as-you-fly' to identify problems early in the lifecycle
 - System will evolve during 10 year development cycle prior to launch
 - Follow industry standards (CCSDS, OMG, IEEE, etc.)
 - Support design upgrades and take advantage of new technologies
 - Each component independent of other components
 - Use ICDs, translators, ingest scripts for interfaces
 - Select best products (real-time, analysis, automation, etc.)
 - Implement using COTS rather than a home grown system
 - Database is application independent
 - Phased approach for evolving ground system
 - Phase 1: Development System (Flight Software support)
 - Phase 2: Integration and Test (I&T) System (GSE)
 - Phase 3: Operations System





JWST Database



- The initial database and ground system elements will be used for 21 years, plus post mission activities.
- Currently 32 diverse ground systems and 24 formal database released.
 Local PRD systems can create as many databases as needed.
 Database build time is 7 minutes.
- Planned for 20-30 thousand command and telemetry items, plus many thousand other database items, pages, scripts, calibrations, table loads,





PRD process



- Take control of project data and separate database from Command & telemetry system (we already on our third C&T systems)
- Coordinate PRD between FSW, Onboard scripts and C&T
- To meet I&T requirements Required C&T provider (Raytheon Eclipse) to ingest PRD in less than 10 minutes
- Process and working groups
 - IRD between users and PRD
 - IRD between PRD & Command & telemetry system (Eclipse)
 - PRD board to mange data certification process
 - Users have own sand box to make changes using PRD tools at their location
 - Data distribution between elements done using central PRD
 - Integrated CM & XREF capabilities
 - Apriori and pre-coordinated inputs of the T&C inputs ahead of time



Technology/Standards







Why XML



- Trade between relational DB (Oracle/MS–Access) and XML
- Use of XML to:
 - Code controlled by open source not vendor
 - Develop ability to use multiple system formats (ECLIPSE, ASIST, EPOCH, html, ASCII)
 - Create a more descriptive database via attributes, tags, and structure (self documented)
 - Allows to combine other data (CM, comments) with Command and telemetry
 - Easy to change and backward compatible.
- Two advantages of Relational DB
 - Validating relation between "rows" (no duplicated commands, etc)
 - JWST enhanced XML with scripts and XREF
 - Validate the database automatically by schemas and scripts
 - Response time: XML is used for controlling data for systems use proprietary format (Rational Rose, Eclipse)
- and GSAW quote: XML is ASCII of the future



JWST User Interface











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- In 2005 OMG baselined XTCE version 1.0
- JWST evaluated XTCE and had major concern of using it.
- JWST worked with JPL and developed a combined XML schema, called JMX
- In CCSDS /OMG meting at Atlanta September 2005 JWST agreed to work within the current standard team and improve XTCE by submitting RFA.
- ESA (Mario Merri) and JWST collaborated on developing the CCSDS Green and Magenta book showing how to use the standard
- While developing the CCSDS Green and Magenta books developed over 120 RFA against XTCE to be incorporated in XTCE version 1.1
- OMG accepted XTCE 1.1 in November meeting
- CCSDS adopted XTCE 1.1 in January 2007 meeting



XTCE use by JWST



- JWST will continue using it's XML database schema
- JWST can import export to XTCE and can exchange data with other XTCE systems (e.g. XTCE compatible)
- XTCE has elements to support TDM that are not needed by JWST
- We want our schema to look like our CCSDS commands and telemetry
- XTCE is used for Command and telemetry **exchange** between systems it does not support all mission data
- JWST database has elements (such as configuration management and FSW) that are not part of XTCE





XTCE future users



- JWST is willing to help other programs to adapt XTCE:
 - Worked with Applied Physics Laboratory (APL) summer 2006 and provided schema
 - Met with LMDC (Landsat) January of 2007
 - Landsat is planning to adopt the JWTS PRD implementation
 - It provides standard for S/C vendor to deliver data to mission ops (similar to ESA module)
 - Gave presentation to NASA Constellation (Cx), waiting to hear back to schedule demo at GSFC
 - Raytheon/Eclipse will accept native XML in 2008 version



Take Away



- Need Program Offices to require use of XTCE for data exchange.
- JWST translation tools, processes are available open source to modify as needed
- JWST CM process provides value add to XTCE
- PRD can be core components elements of CGS (common Ground System)
- Improved modularity and interoperability by decoupling data structure from telemetry and command system
- less lock in to proprietary COTS solution : Program data structure retained by Program Office
- Anticipate that any COTS compliant with ESA/SCOS 2000 XTCE integrated with minimal effort (trending, web browser access, batch decom, engineering archive)



Summary



- Ops plays major role in success of JWST
- To meet mission requirements architected an adaptable and robust flight and ground system
- Mission database is one of major elements of operations architecture
- Organization & process are critical in the success of infusing newtechnology/standard
- Hope we got you excited about XTCE !!!





- Quotes from previous GSAW conferences applicable to this paper:
 - Ground is the key to flexibility
 - Use of frameworks for adaptive design/architecture
 - XML is ASCII of the future
- This years quote:
 - Excited about XTCE













STScI provides onboard scripts to:

- manage the event driven sequencing of activities(Operations Plan Executive – OPE)
- issue the commands to the science instruments FSW, ISIM FSW, and the spacecraft to accomplish the intended objective
- calculate spacecraft offsets including removal of optical distortions and performing coordinate transformations
- Scripts are organized into a set of "Visit" Files: A sequence of observations specified by earliest start time, latest start time and finish times is uploaded.
- Ground system can ensure that start & finish times in list do not violate any constraints.





JWST Ground System Implementation Decisions



- Use the operational command and telemetry system for development and I&T (CCSDS standard for packets)
 - Use the same data and interfaces throughout the life of JWST
- Project Reference Database (CCSDS XTCE compatible)
 - Common area for all mission-related information
 - Data independent of any system
- CCSDS File Delivery Protocol (CCSDS CFDP)
 - Increase data reliability by providing a reliable file downlink protocol
- Onboard scripts
 - Use modular and common components onboard (JAVAScripts)
- Batch decommutated data separate from C&T
 - Common generic format for all engineering data
- Engineering archive and trending
 - Common engineering data store for the life of the mission