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# FROME (FROME AND SOUTHERN CALLABONNA 1:250 000 SHEET AREAS) AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY, 1995 - OPERATIONS REPORT

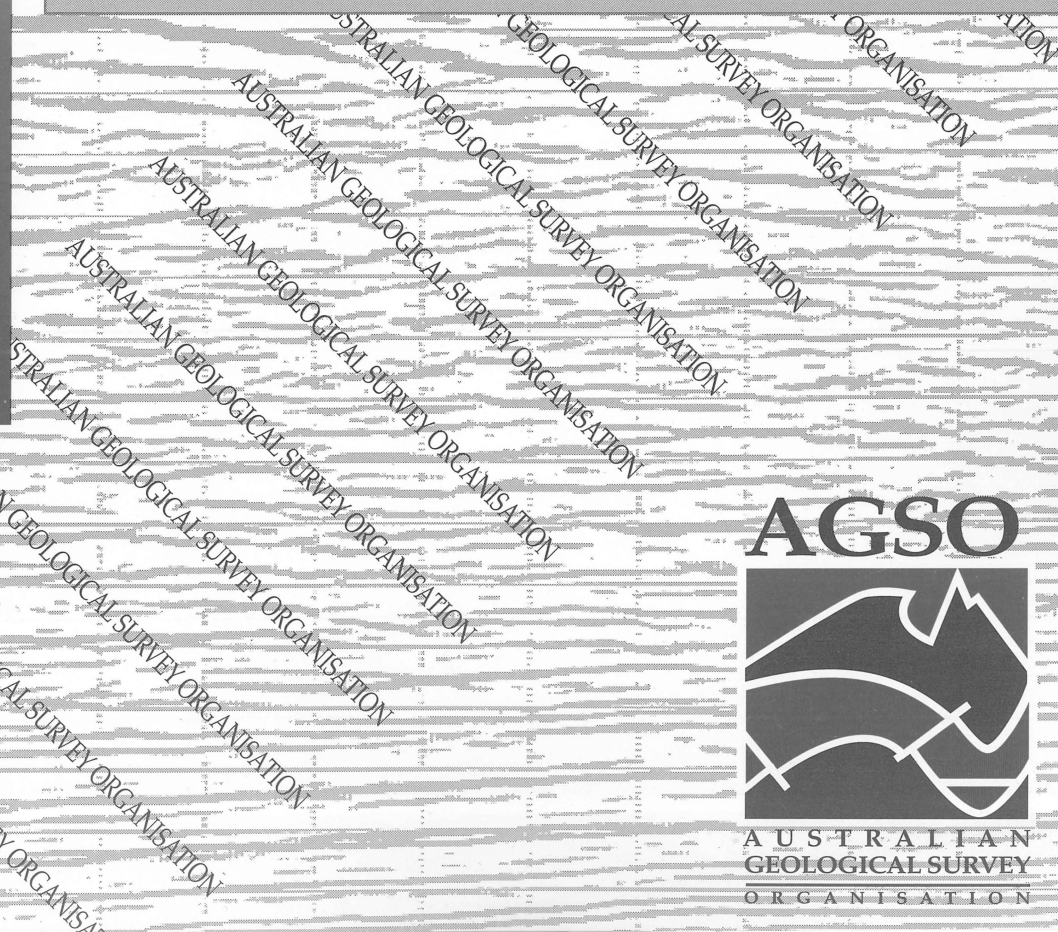
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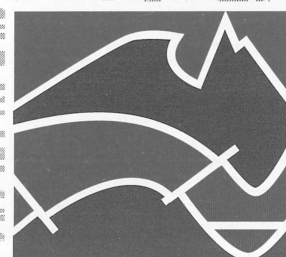
L.M. RICHARDSON



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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
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FROME  
(FROME AND SOUTHERN CALLABONNA  
1:250 000 SHEET AREAS)  
AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY, 1995  
- OPERATIONS REPORT

by

L.M. Richardson

Record 1996/20

Australian Geological Survey Organisation



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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND ENERGY

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Minister for Resources and Energy: Senator the Hon. W.R. Parer

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## AUSTRALIAN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY ORGANISATION

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## SUMMARY

The Australian Geological Survey Organisation flew an airborne geophysical survey of 68 300 line km over the Frome and southern Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet areas from August to November 1995.

The survey was flown along east-west flight lines spaced 400 metres at an altitude of 80m above ground level.

The total magnetic intensity, gamma-ray spectrometric and digital elevation model data which were collected during the survey have been processed and are available for purchase, in both digital (point located data and gridded) and map form, from the Australian Geological Survey Organisation.

## 1. SURVEY AREA AND PARAMETERS

### (i) Area Description

The Frome airborne survey covers the Frome and southern half of the Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet areas. The exact survey area is shown in Appendix A.

### (ii) Survey Parameters

Altitude	80 m nominal terrain clearance
Flight line direction	East-West
Tie line direction:	North-South
Survey Line spacing:	
Flight line spacing:	400 m
Tie line spacing:	4000 m
Survey distance flown:	
400 m survey Lines:	62000 km
Ties:	6300 km
Total distance:	68300 km
Sampling interval	
Magnetics:	0.1 seconds (approx 7m)
Gamma-ray spectrometrics:	1.0 seconds (approx 67m)
GPS/Doppler/Altimeter:	1.0 seconds (approx 67m)
Barometric pressure/Temperature:	10.0 seconds (approx 670m)

## 2. LOGISTICS

### (i) Operating Base and Dates of Flying

#### (a) Operating Base

Aircraft and crew were based at Broken Hill in NSW for the duration of the survey from 3 August to 25 November 1995.

#### (b) Flying Dates

From 3 August to 13 August the aircraft was compensated with parameters calculated from the last compensation flight on 22 July for the Menindee airborne survey. When the aircraft returned to Broken Hill after scheduled maintenance on 16 August a new compensation area was found in the south-eastern corner of the Frome 1:250 000 map Sheet area. This area was used for compensation flights for the remainder of the survey.

Production flying commenced on 3 August and continued through to 25 November. Appendix B summarises flying days and distances flown.

### (ii) Survey Aircraft and Field Crew

#### (a) Aircraft

Aero Commander 500 S "Shrike", VH-BGE

#### (b) Field Crew

Party Leaders: Murray Richardson  
Ross Brodie

Technicians: Dave Pownall  
Trevor Dalziell  
Beata Zygmunt

Operators: Lars Rickardsson  
"Curly" Wilcox

Pilots: Capt. John Biffin (Skywest Aviation)  
Capt. Murray Terwey ( " " )  
Capt. Grahame Brett ( " " )



### 3. SURVEY EQUIPMENT

#### (i) Major Equipment

Magnetometer:	Geometrics G833 helium magnetometer
Compensator:	RMS Instruments Automatic Aeromagnetic Digital Compensator
Gamma-ray spectrometer:	Exploranium gamma-ray spectrometer consisting of a GR820 spectrum processor and two DET1024 spectrometer crystal detectors (33.56 l total)
Altimeter:	Collins ALT-50 radar altimeter
Barometer:	AGSO digital-Setra sensor
Thermometer:	AGSO digital-RS sensor
Navigation:	Ashtech XII "Ranger" GPS receivers and Ashtech "Ranger" differential processing software
Doppler	Racal (Decca) doppler antenna (80561 CAD) Sperry C 14 D compass
Video:	National colour video camera (WV CL 302E) National VCR (NV 180) National LCD TV (TCL 3A) National Time Date Generator (WJ 810)
Acquisition hardware:	HP-A400 computer, HP9122 720 Kb 3.5 inch dual floppy disc drive and HP Thinkjet printer Compaq Notebook and 120 Mb portable hard disc drive
Acquisition software:	AGSO-developed HP assembler language program

## **(ii) Navigation**

### **(a) GPS Navigation System**

Aircraft navigation was carried out using an Ashtech XII global positioning system (GPS). A receiver in the aircraft received range data from satellites every second and calculated the current latitude and longitude coordinates in the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84). The range data were recorded internally in the GPS receiver every five seconds.

The calculated position of the aircraft was recorded on the aircraft acquisition system every second and was used to provide the pilot with aircraft guidance information on an LCD display.

To enable differential GPS post flight processing, a second GPS receiver was set up as a GPS base station in the old meteorological compound about 200 metres west of AGSO's field office caravan at the Broken Hill airport. The base station internally recorded range data every five seconds. The data from the aircraft were post processed using Ashtech 'Ranger' software at the end of each flying day. The error in position of the post processed flight path data was checked by flying a cloverleaf over AGSO's office caravan and is within approximately 5-10 metres.

The position of the base station GPS receiver was accurately determined by differential GPS surveying using the aerodrome reference point (ARP), located at Broken Hill aerodrome, as a fixed reference.

The determined base station GPS coordinates (WGS 84) were:

Longitude	: 141° 27' 57.55041" E
Latitude	: 32° 0' 0.02422" S
Ellipsoidal height	: 295.7040 m

### **(b) Doppler Navigation System**

Doppler navigation data were used as a secondary navigation system for the aircraft. The doppler data were used as a back-up for the main navigation system (GPS) and to infill gaps (< 5 km) in the GPS data.

### **(c) Video Flight Path Recording**

The aircraft's flight path was recorded on a VHS video system consisting of a National colour video camera with a wide angle lens, a National VCR and a National LCD TV. This system was also used for locating start and end positions for the gamma-ray spectrometer test lines.

## **(iii) Magnetometer**

A Geometrics G833 helium magnetometer, with the sensor mounted in a boom attached to the rear of the aircraft, was used for the survey. The specifications of the magnetometer are summarised in Appendix C.

The recorded total magnetic field data were compensated in real time using an RMS Instruments automatic aeromagnetic digital compensator (AADC). The AADC compensates for the effects of aircraft motion and heading. The specifications of the AADC are summarised in Appendix D. Compensation procedures are described in Chapter 4.

The AADC low pass filters the total magnetic field intensity data using a second order 0.9 Hz recursive Butterworth filter. The filtered compensated total magnetic field intensity data were recorded on the aircraft acquisition system.

#### (iv) Gamma-ray Spectrometer

An Exploranium gamma-ray spectrometer, incorporating two DET1024 crystal detectors with a total volume of 33.56 litres, was used. The crystal gains were controlled by an Exploranium GR820 spectrum processor. Appendix E summarises the specifications of the gamma-ray spectrometer components.

Two hundred and fifty six channels of data between 0.0 MeV and 3.0 MeV were recorded every second. These data were recorded on a portable hard disk via a communications link between the HP-A400 computer acquisition system and a Compaq Notebook computer.

Additionally five channels of data were recorded using the following window limits:

Total Count	0.40-3.00 MeV
Potassium	1.35-1.57 MeV
Uranium	1.63-1.89 MeV
Thorium	2.42-2.82 MeV
Cosmic	3.00-6.00 MeV

The Total Count, Potassium, Uranium and Thorium counts were used for data checking during acquisition and the Cosmic counts were used for background estimation and later data processing. A cumulative 256 channel spectrum between 0.0 MeV and 3.0 MeV was also recorded every 300 seconds and for each survey line. These spectra were also used for data checking during acquisition. System live time (sample time - total dead time) was output with the data for later data processing.

#### (v) Altimeter

A Collins ALT-50 radar altimeter was used to measure ground clearance. The radar altimeter display indicates ground clearance from 0-2000 feet. The manufacturer's specifications claim a +/-2% accuracy for the ALT-50 system.

Prior to commencement of production flying the radar altimeter system was checked. This involved flying the aircraft at 30 metre height intervals, up to a height of 180 metres over Broken Hill airstrip using the aircraft's barometric altimeter as the height reference. Radar altimeter and GPS height data were

recorded for each height interval flown. A comparison of these data with the aircraft's barometric altimeter verified that the system was operating satisfactorily.

#### **(vi) Barometer and Thermometer**

Atmospheric temperature and pressure were measured using a digital barometer (Setra sensor) and digital thermometer (RS sensor). Although both of these units were built by AGSO, the sensors were factory calibrated and no AGSO calibrations were performed.

#### **(vii) Base Station Magnetometer**

Daily variations of the Earth's magnetic field were monitored using a Geometrics G833 helium magnetometer, the specifications of which are given in Appendix F. The base station was set up in an area of shallow magnetic gradient, away from cultural influences and within telemetry range of AGSO's office caravan. Data from the base station were recorded every one tenth of a second onto a Chicony 486 SLC laptop computer incorporating a GT100 universal counter card to calculate the magnetic field values and a Magellan OEM GPS module to synchronise the diurnal data with aircraft data. The data were telemetered back to AGSO's field office caravan for display and recording every twenty seconds on a Acer 466 DP desktop computer. The telemetry system used AGSO-built modems incorporating Phillips 828 UHF mobile radiotelephone transmit boards at a frequency of 471.8 MHz.

Throughout the survey, base station data were recorded every twenty seconds during production flights.

The acquisition program and hardware were developed in-house at AGSO.

#### **(viii) Data Acquisition**

The acquisition program and system were run using a HP-A400 computer with data recorded on 3.5 inch floppy discs using a HP9122 720 Kb disc drive. The one second multichannel spectra were recorded on a portable hard disk linked to the acquisition system through a Compaq Notebook computer.

The acquisition program was developed in-house at AGSO. The data are displayed in real time in the aircraft in analogue form on a HP Thinkjet printer. A schematic diagram of the aircraft's acquisition system is shown in Appendix G.

## 4. CALIBRATION

### (i) Compensation for the Magnetic Field of the Aircraft

Compensation flights were flown in an area of low magnetic gradient prior to the start of the survey and after each aircraft service. The first compensation flight for Frome was over part of the Menindee 1:250 000 map sheet area, the remaining compensation flights were flown approximately 90 kilometres north east of Broken Hill over an area between 140° 45' to 140° 54' E and 30° 42' to 30° 48' S. All compensation flights were flown at an altitude of 2800 m above sea level.

The compensation flight procedure comprises a series of rolls( $\pm 10^\circ$ ), pitches( $\pm 5^\circ$ ) and yaws( $\pm 5^\circ$ ) in the four cardinal headings to enable the AADC to calculate correction coefficients needed to remove aircraft manoeuvre noise. Each manoeuvre component was of 30 seconds duration.

The compensation manoeuvres were repeated after calculation of the coefficients to check the compensation quality. Prior to compensation the peak-to-peak noise was approximately 1 nT. Peak-to-peak noise during repeat manoeuvres and after the final compensation was 0.20 nT or less. On normal survey flights, noise levels from all sources were generally less than 0.10 nT peak-to-peak.

The AADC calculates basic statistics which reflect the degree of merit of the compensation. These include the standard deviation of the recorded data without corrections applied, the standard deviation with the corrections applied, the improvement ratio (the ratio of the standard deviation of the recorded data without and with the corrections applied) and the vector norm (the degree of difficulty in calculating the corrections). These statistics are given for all compensations in Appendix H.

### (ii) Gamma-ray Spectrometer Calibration

The GR820 spectrum processor uses a sophisticated automatic control method to maintain crystal alignment while stabilising on naturally occurring isotopes (typically Potassium). During operation the system continuously monitors each of the eight crystals signals and accumulates a separate spectra for each configured signal. When the confidence level for the selected stabilisation peak (Potassium) is exceeded, the peak channel of this isotope is computed, compared to the correct peak location, and the gain is then corrected. The gain for each crystal was corrected at least every 30 minutes.

Gamma-ray spectrometric test lines were flown at the beginning and end of each production flight. These lines were flown at survey altitude along a dirt road and lasted 150 seconds or approximately 10 kilometres. The location of the test lines used for the survey is shown in Appendix I.

Background corrections for gamma-ray spectrometrics are calculated using a full spectrum method (Minty, 1992) .

After each flight, statistics were calculated from data recorded between fixed reference points, observed on video, along the test line. These statistics were recorded in spreadsheet form and compared with the preceding flights in order to detect any irregularities. In particular, the difference between the average in the total count channel for the most recently flown test line and the running average of all the previously flown test lines was analysed. This value only rarely varied by greater than 10% for the test line, well inside a 15% variation which would be considered acceptable.

## 5. DATA PROCESSING

Flight path recovery, data checking and editing, and preliminary processing, gridding and imaging were performed at the survey base using the Geophysical Mapping Section's airborne data processing system, ARGUS. This preliminary processing was repeated in Canberra using the successor to ARGUS, the new INTREPID airborne geophysical data processing and visualisation system. Final magnetic, gamma-ray spectrometric and digital elevation model data processing were carried out using INTREPID.

### (i) Data Checking and Editing

Data recorded on the aircraft acquisition system were transferred on a flight by flight basis to a hard disk in a Compaq SLT386s/20 desktop computer. This computer was networked to a Sun Sparcstation IPX and all aircraft data were transferred to the Sun hard drive to be edited, using AGSO-developed software, for missing values, noise, spikes or steps. All the recorded data were displayed for each survey line and any errors were interactively corrected. Anomalies arising from cultural influences, such as sheds, houses and fences, were usually not edited out. They were only edited out if they caused severe noise or caused the magnetometer to lose lock.

### (ii) Flight Path Recovery

Range data which were recorded internally every five seconds on both GPS receivers were post-processed daily in the field using "Ranger" - an Ashtech proprietary program. "Ranger" calculates the corrected flight path (longitude, latitude and height) relative to the WGS84 reference ellipsoid.

At the end of each flying day the corrected longitude and latitude data calculated at five second intervals by "Ranger" were used to correct the GPS data which were recorded every one second on the aircraft acquisition system. As well as the standard "Ranger" corrections, other acquisition system specific corrections were applied. Position data were retained in the WGS84 coordinate system. The World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84) coordinate system is defined in Appendix J. The full correction procedure is described in Appendix K and is outlined below.

- (a) Position calculation delay correction.
- (b) Fiducial synchronisation correction.
- (c) "Ranger" corrections.
- (d) Low pass filter.
- (e) Reference navigation data to position of magnetometer sensor.
- (f) Doppler infill of gaps.

The fully corrected flight path was plotted each day to check the position of survey lines and their spacing. Navigation reflies were determined by the following criteria:

Line Spacing	Across Track Deviation	Distance along line
400 m	50 m	greater than 3 km

When both the across track deviation and along line distance were exceeded that portion of the survey line was re flown. This occurred very infrequently.

### (iii) Magnetic Data Processing

Raw magnetic data were merged with the navigation data, and diurnal variation corrections were removed. The IGRF 1990 geomagnetic reference field, updated to 1995.75 and for an altitude of 130 m above sea level, which was estimated to be the mean survey altitude, was then subtracted from the data. The IGRF was calculated from the coefficients defined by the IAGA (1991). All magnetic values were adjusted by a constant so that the average residual magnetic field value was approximately 5000 nT.

The data were levelled using standard tie line levelling procedures. The steps involved in the tie line levelling were as follows.

- (a) Tie line 250 was chosen as a reference tie.
- (b) All other ties were levelled to this tie line using degree three polynomial adjustments.
- (c) Lines were adjusted on a flight by flight basis to minimise the differences at line/tie crossover points, using degree three polynomial adjustments.
- (d) Finally the lines were adjusted individually to minimise crossover differences, using degree three polynomial adjustments.

The tie-line levelled data were then levelled using Green's loop closure method (Green, 1983).

The data were micro-levelled using the technique described by Minty (1991). Filter characteristics are described below.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 3000 metres.



- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 800 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 500 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 20 nT. Statistics on the applied corrections indicated that 97.5% of the corrections were between  $\pm 3$  nT and that 99% of the corrections were between -7.93 and +6.67 nT.

A subsection of the data were micro-levelled a second time using the technique described by Minty (1991). The area subsectioned is bounded by a polygon with the following vertices:

139.636°	-30.203°
139.728°	-30.054°
139.828°	-29.973°
139.868°	-29.871°
139.655°	-29.851°
139.559°	-29.932°
139.465°	-29.994°
139.465°	-30.226°
139.523°	-30.279°

Filter characteristics are described below.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 2000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 1000 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 375 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 10 nT.

The micro-levelled data were gridded using the minimum curvature technique described by Briggs (1974), employing a 80 m (3.0") grid cell size.

#### **(iv) Gamma-ray Spectrometer Data Processing.**

A combination of full spectrum and 3 channel processing was used to correct the gamma-ray spectrometric data. The multichannel spectra were deadtime corrected, energy calibrated and background corrected. The spectra were then integrated over the conventional 4 - channel windows for subsequent stripping and height corrections.

The energy calibration was affected by using the positions of prominent photopeaks in the sum spectrum for each line to obtain an estimate of the energy at channel one and the gain ( keV per channel). These parameters were then

used to correct each spectrum in the line by resampling each channel to its correct energy range.

The three components of background were removed as follows.

(a) Aircraft and Cosmic Background

Aircraft and cosmic spectra for the AGSO aircraft were determined from high altitude calibration flights using the procedure described by Minty and Richardson (1989).

(b) Atmospheric Radon Background

A variation on the full spectrum method described by Minty (1992) was used to remove radon background. The method is based on the observation that the low energy  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  peak at 0.609 MeV from atmospheric radon suffers far less attenuation relative to the  $^{214}\text{Bi}$  peak at 1.76 MeV than is the case for radiation from the ground. Thus the ratio of the counts in each of these photopeaks is diagnostic of the relative contributions of atmospheric radon and uranium in the ground to the observed spectrum.

Stripping (channel interaction corrections) to correct for Compton scattering were applied to the data. Stripping ratios for the AGSO system were determined by Minty and others (1990) using portable calibration sources. The corrections were applied as follows

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{TH}(\text{corrected})} &= N_{\text{TH}} \\ N_{\text{U}(\text{corrected})} &= N_{\text{U}} - A * N_{\text{TH}(\text{corrected})} \\ N_{\text{K}(\text{corrected})} &= N_{\text{K}} - B * N_{\text{TH}} - C * N_{\text{U}(\text{corrected})} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{TH}} &= \text{counts in the thorium channel} \\ N_{\text{U}} &= \text{counts in the uranium} \\ N_{\text{K}} &= \text{counts in the potassium channel} \\ A &= 0.30987 + 0.00049 * \text{height} \\ B &= 0.38308 + 0.00065 * \text{height} \\ C &= 0.83815 + 0.00069 * \text{height} \end{aligned}$$

The data were then corrected for height attenuation and reduced to a nominal flying height of 80 m. Where the aircraft attained a height of 250 m or higher above the ground 250 m was used to height correct in the total count, potassium and thorium channels. For the uranium channel the maximum aircraft height used in height corrections was 160 m.

Height attenuation corrections were made using the following formula

$$N_{\text{corrected}} = N_{\text{uncorrected}} e^{-\mu (H-h)}$$

where

$N_{\text{corrected}}$	=	corrected counts
$N_{\text{uncorrected}}$	=	uncorrected counts
$H$	=	nominal flying height
$h$	=	measured flying height
$\mu$	=	attenuation coefficient

Attenuation coefficients for each channel are given below

$\mu_{\text{total count}}$	=	0.007850
$\mu_{\text{potassium}}$	=	0.009430
$\mu_{\text{uranium}}$	=	0.011500
$\mu_{\text{thorium}}$	=	0.007480

Gamma-ray spectrometric data were levelled in much the same way as the magnetic data. However, prior to sampling the crossover points, a 5 point convolution filter with a cut-off wavelength of 350 m was passed over the data. Note that these filtered data were only used for the crossover analysis and the final point located data have not been filtered.

The steps involved in tie line levelling were as follows.

- (a) Tie line 280 was chosen as a reference tie.
- (b) All other ties were levelled to this tie using degree one polynomial adjustments.
- (c) Lines were adjusted on a flight by flight basis to minimise the differences at line/tie crossover points, using degree one polynomial adjustments.

The data were micro-levelled using the technique described by Minty (1991). Filter characteristics are described below.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 2500 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 800 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 500 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 222, 27, 14 and 22 counts for Total Count, Potassium, Uranium and Thorium channels respectively. Statistics on the applied corrections indicated that for Total Count 98.1% of the corrections were between  $\pm 150$  cps, for potassium 98.6% of the corrections were between  $\pm 15$  cps, for uranium 98.1% of the corrections were between  $\pm 8$  cps and for thorium 97.2% of the corrections were between  $\pm 8$  cps.

A subsection of the data were micro-levelled a second time using the technique described by Minty (1991). The area subsectioned is bounded by a polygon with the following vertices:

139.478°	-30.680°
139.806°	-30.531°
140.000°	-30.268°
140.139°	-30.075°
140.052°	-29.908°
139.953°	-29.825°
139.830°	-29.781°
139.681°	-29.711°
139.467°	-29.671°

The gamma-ray data were micro-levelled using the following parameters.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 1500 metres for Total Count and 2500 metres for Potassium, Uranium and Thorium.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 750 metres for Total Count and 900 metres for Potassium, Uranium and Thorium.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 350 metres for Total Count and 500 metres for Potassium, Uranium and Thorium before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 75, 14, 7 and 11 counts for Total Count, Potassium, Uranium and Thorium respectively. Statistics on the applied corrections indicated that for Total Count 97.3% of the corrections were between  $\pm 35$  cps, for potassium 97.8% of the corrections were between  $\pm 4$  cps, for uranium 97.9% of the corrections were between  $\pm 2$  cps and for thorium 95.9% of the corrections were between  $\pm 2$  cps.

The Total Count and Uranium gamma-ray data were microlevelled a third time to remove broad bands across the entire data set. The following parameters were used.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 12000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 3000 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 2250 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 75 counts for Total Count and 6 counts for

uranium. Statistics on the applied corrections indicated that for Total Count 97.2% of the corrections were between  $\pm 50$  cps and for uranium 96.7% of the corrections were between  $\pm 3$  cps.

Finally, a subsection of the Total Count and Uranium data were micro-levelled a fourth time using the technique described by Minty (1991). The area subsectioned is bounded by a polygon with the following vertices:

139.460°	-30.375°
139.460°	-30.700°
141.050°	-30.700°
141.050°	-30.375°

The total count and uranium gamma-ray data were micro-levelled using the following parameters.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 15000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 5000 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 2800 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 100 counts for Total Count and 3 counts for Uranium. Statistics on the applied corrections indicated that for Total Count 96.7% of the corrections were between  $\pm 30$  cps and for uranium 98.5% of the corrections were between  $\pm 1$  cps.

The micro-levelled data were gridded with a 80 m (3.0") cell size using Brigg's minimum curvature technique.

#### **(v) Digital Elevation Model Data Processing.**

As described in Chapter 5 - Section (ii), range data recorded internally every five seconds on both GPS receivers were post-processed on a daily basis using "Ranger" - an Ashtech proprietary program. "Ranger" calculates the position of the aircraft GPS receiver's antenna, including longitude, latitude and height relative to the WGS84 reference ellipsoid for each set of range data (every five seconds).

As in the case of the longitude and latitude data, the following acquisition system specific corrections, which are described in Appendix K, are applied to the height data:

- (a) Position calculation delay correction.
- (b) Fiducial synchronisation correction.

The corrected height data, which are relative to the WGS84 reference ellipsoid, are then linearly interpolated to one second samples (70 metres) and are merged with the longitude and latitude data.

A radar altimeter provided the aircraft's ground clearance, the altimeter data being sampled every one second.

The raw ground elevation data were then calculated as the difference between the height of the aircraft above the ellipsoid and the height of the aircraft above the ground. These raw elevation data calculated every one second (70 metres) are relative to the WGS84 reference ellipsoid - the ellipsoid being a horizontal datum.

The next step is to convert the heights relative to the WGS84 ellipsoid to heights relative to the geoid. The geoid, which is defined as "the equipotential surface of the gravity field which best approximates mean sea level", is usually chosen as the datum to which heights plotted on maps are referred. The height of the geoid above the WGS84 ellipsoid is called the geoid-ellipsoid separation or N value.

Geoid-ellipsoid separation information for the area covered by The Frome Airborne Survey were supplied by the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group (AUSLIG) in February 1996. The set of N values were supplied as a 10 minute of arc (approximately 18 km) grid. AUSLIG also provides a program "DINTER" which uses bilinear interpolation to calculate N values on a one minute of arc (approximately 1600 metres) grid. These values were then regridded using the new INTREPID imaging and data processing system to a cell size of 12.0 seconds of arc (approximately 320 metres). This grid of N values was then used to calculate correction strings to be subtracted from the elevation data. The correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 1000 metres before being applied to the point-located elevation data.

The elevation data were then corrected to account for the vertical separation between the antenna of the aircraft's GPS receiver, on the roof of the aircraft, and radar altimeter on the belly of the aircraft. This antenna separation distance of 1.675 metres was also subtracted from the elevation data.

Elevation data were levelled in much the same way as the radiometric data and the steps involved are described below.

- (a) Tie line 250 was chosen as the reference tie.
- (b) All other ties were levelled to the reference tie using degree one polynomial adjustments.
- (c) Lines were adjusted on a flight by flight basis to minimise the differences at line/tie crossover points, using degree one polynomial adjustments.

- (d) Finally the lines were adjusted individually to minimise crossover differences, using degree one polynomial adjustments.

The data were micro-levelled using the technique described by Minty (1991). Filter characteristics are described below.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 3000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 800 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 500 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 10 m.

A subsection of the data were micro-levelled a second time using the technique described by Minty (1991). The area subsectioned covers the southern half of Lake Frome

The data were micro-levelled using the following parameters.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 2000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 1600 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 375 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 5 metres.

Two lines were microlevelled a third time for the digital elevation model data. These lines were S3223 and S3243 respectively. The following parameters were used.

- (a) Low pass filter in the flight line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 2000 metres.
- (b) High pass filter in the tie line direction with a cut-off wavelength of 1600 metres.
- (c) Correction strings were low pass filtered with a cut-off wavelength of 375 metres before being applied to the line data. Adjustments were limited to a maximum of 20 metres.

The micro-levelled data were gridded using Brigg's minimum curvature technique, employing a 80 m (3.0") grid cell size.

## **(vi) Final Products**

### **(a) Standard AGSO geophysical maps**

An AGSO standard set of geophysical maps have been produced at scales of 1:100 000 and 1:50 000 for the entire survey area. Flight path, TMI profiles and contour maps were produced using the INTREPID processing system. The standard set of maps produced are shown in Appendix L.

### **(b) Digital Data**

Final processed point-located data and grids were archived in the standard AGSO ARGUS format, on exabyte magnetic tape cartridges and magneto-optical discs, in ASCII format (Appendix M).

### **(c) Pixel Image Maps**

In addition to the standard AGSO geophysical maps listed in Appendix M, pixel image maps will be produced using the method described by Milligan and others (1992). The following pixel image maps will be released at the end of 1996.

- (1) Colour 1:250 000 scale total magnetic intensity (reduced to the pole) with easterly illumination covering the Frome and Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet areas.
- (2) Greyscale 1:250 000 scale total magnetic intensity (reduced to the pole) with easterly illumination covering the Frome and Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet areas.
- (3) Colour 1:250 000 scale image of the digital elevation model with easterly illumination covering both the Frome and Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet areas.
- (4) Colour 1:250 000 scale gamma-ray spectrometry composite image map for the Frome 1:250 000 map Sheet area.
- (5) Colour 1:250 000 scale gamma-ray spectrometry composite image map for the Callabonna 1:250 000 map Sheet.



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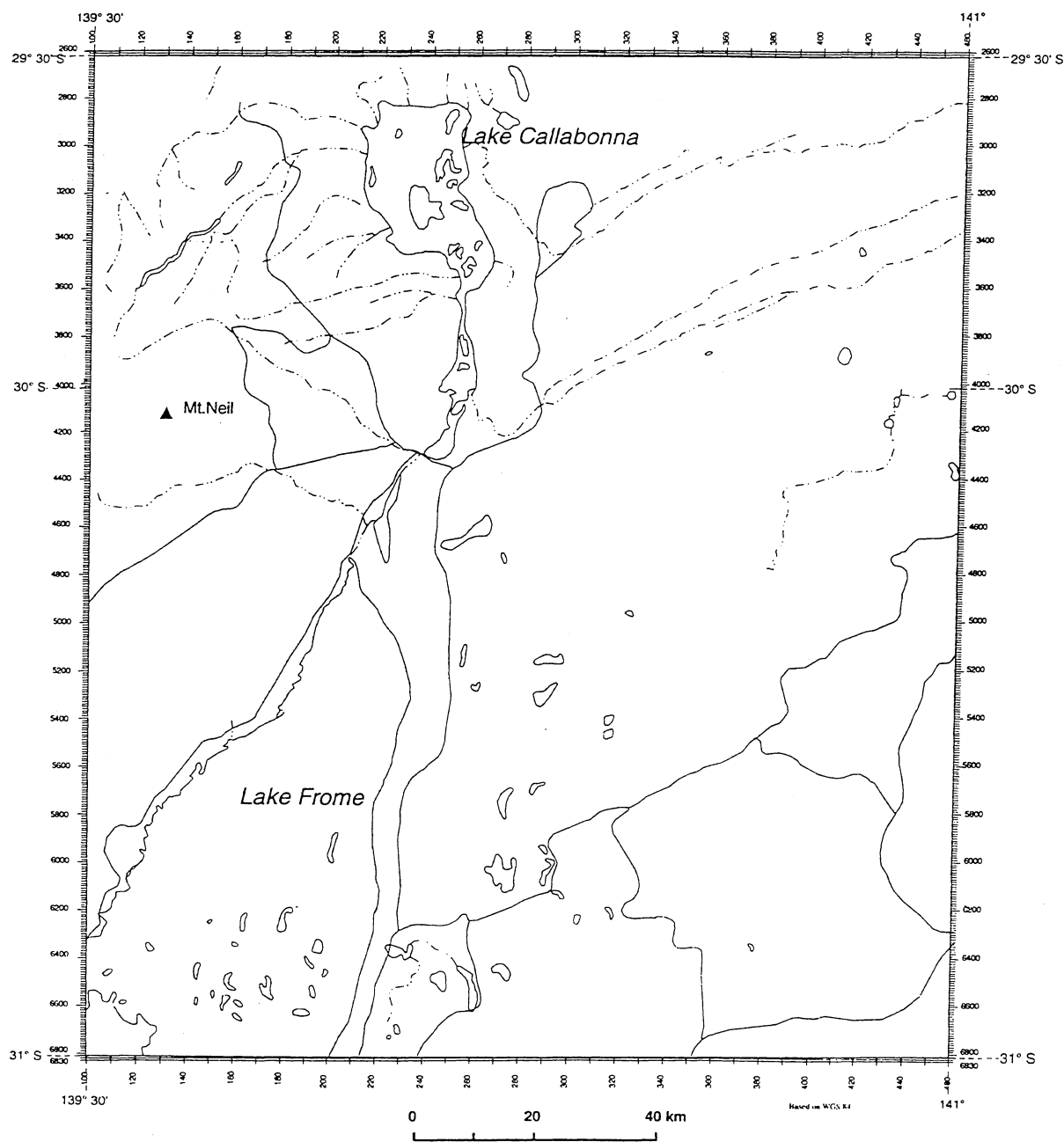
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# Appendix A

## Survey Area



### FROME/LAKE CALLABONNA S.A. 1995 SURVEY P641



INDEX TO ADJOINING MAPS

MARREE	CALLABONNA	MILPARINKA
COPLEY	FROME	COBHAM LAKE
PARACHILNA	CURNAMONNA	BROKEN HILL

Frank Simons  
KALBARNO  
07-25-1996

## Appendix B1

### FLYING DATES AND LINE KILOMETRES FLOWN

DATE	FLIGHT No.	COMMENTS	LINE KM
3/08/95	344	Operations Normal	576
3/08/95	345	Operations Normal	864
4/08/95	346	Operations Normal	864
5/08/95	347	Operations Normal	864
7/08/95	349	Operations Normal	864
7/08/95	350	Operations Normal	864
8/08/95	351	Operations Normal	576
8/08/95	352	Operations Normal	864
9/08/95	353	Operations Normal	576
10/08/95	354	Operations Normal	864
10/08/95	355	Operations Normal	864
11/08/95	356	Operations Normal	864
11/08/95	357	Operations Normal	864
12/08/95	358	Operations Normal	864
12/08/95	359	Operations Normal	720
16/08/95	360	Compensation flight	0
17/08/95	361	Operations Normal	864
17/08/95	362	Operations Normal	864
18/08/95	363	Operations Normal	864
18/08/95	364	Operations Normal	864
19/08/95	365	Operations Normal	864
19/08/95	366	Operations Normal	864
20/08/95	367	Operations Normal	864
20/08/95	368	Operations Normal	864
21/08/95	369	Operations Normal	864
25/08/95	370	Operations Normal	432
26/08/95	371	Operations Normal	864
26/08/95	372	Operations Normal	864
27/08/95	373	Operations Normal	864
27/08/95	374	Operations Normal	720
28/08/95	375	Operations Normal	576
28/08/95	376	Operations Normal	720
29/08/95	377	Operations Normal	720
29/08/95	378	Operations Normal	720
30/08/95	379	Operations Normal	720
31/08/95	380	Operations Normal	720
31/08/95	381	Flight aborted - high winds & dust	0
1/09/95	382	Operations Normal	725
2/09/95	383	Operations Normal	769
2/09/95	384	Operations Normal	914
4/09/95	385	Operations Normal	914
4/09/95	386	Flight aborted - high winds & dust	215
5/09/95	387	Operations Normal	492

## Appendix B2

### FLYING DATES AND LINE KILOMETRES FLOWN

DATE	FLIGHT No.	COMMENTS	LINE KM
11/09/95	388	Compensation flight/Operations Normal	217
12/09/95	389	Operations Normal	855
12/09/95	390	Compensation flight/Operations Normal	769
13/09/95	391	Operations Normal	770
13/09/95	392	Operations Normal	730
14/09/95	393	Operations Normal	915
14/09/95	394	Operations Normal	830
15/09/95	395	Operations Normal	870
25/09/95	408	Operations Normal	870
29/09/95	416	Operations Normal	780
29/09/95	417	Operations Normal	780
30/09/95	418	Operations Normal	580
1/10/95	419	Operations Normal	785
6/10/95	420	Compensation flight	0
7/10/95	421	Operations Normal	740
7/10/95	422	Operations Normal	585
8/10/95	423	Operations Normal	780
8/10/95	424	Operations Normal	780
9/10/95	425	Operations Normal	780
9/10/95	426	Operations Normal	785
10/10/95	427	Operations Normal	780
10/10/95	428	Operations Normal	780
12/10/95	431	Flight aborted - high winds & dust	0
13/10/95	433	Operations Normal	735
13/10/95	434	Operations Normal	735
14/10/95	435	Operations Normal	615
16/10/95	436	Operations Normal	735
16/10/95	437	Operations Normal	735
17/10/95	438	Operations Normal	745
17/10/95	439	Operations Normal	460
18/10/95	440	Operations Normal	745
18/10/95	441	Operations Normal	760
19/10/95	442	Operations Normal	750
19/10/95	443	Operations Normal	605
24/10/95	444	Operations Normal	735
25/10/95	445	Operations Normal	735
26/10/95	446	Operations Normal	740
26/10/95	447	Operations Normal	735
27/10/95	448	Operations Normal	740
27/10/95	449	Operations Normal	740
28/10/95	450	Operations Normal	740
28/10/95	451	Flight aborted - high winds & dust	0
29/10/95	452	Operations Normal	740

## Appendix B3

### FLYING DATES AND LINE KILOMETRES FLOWN

DATE	FLIGHT No.	COMMENTS	LINE KM
29/10/95	453	Operations Normal	215
		Flight aborted after aircraft hydraulics failure	
20/11/95	455	Compensation flight	0
20/11/95	456	Operations Normal	735
21/11/95	457	Operations Normal	735
21/11/95	458	Operations Normal	735
22/11/95	459	Operations Normal	735
22/11/95	460	Operations Normal	735
23/11/95	461	Operations Normal	735
23/11/95	462	Flight aborted -AADC failure	0
23/11/95	463	Operations Normal	735
24/11/95	464	Operations Normal	740
24/11/95	465	Operations Normal	740
25/11/95	466	Operations Normal	530

Total line/tie kilometres flown	68333
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Total flights in survey	99
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Productive survey flights	91
---------------------------	----

Compensation flights only	3
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Abandoned flights	5
-------------------	---

Abandoned survey flights consisted of:

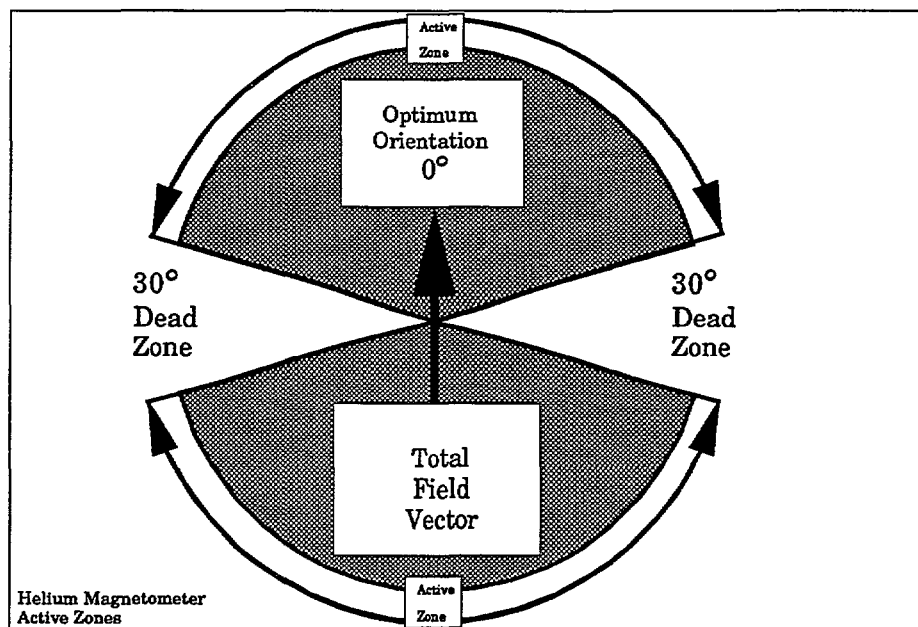
In flight bad weather	4
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Equipment malfunction	1
-----------------------	---

## APPENDIX C

### SPECIFICATIONS - G833 HELIUM MAGNETOMETER

Operating Range:	20,000 to 95,000 nT
Temperature:	-20 to +50 C
Sensitivity:	0.0032 nT/root Hz RMS
Bandwidth:	350 Hz ( -3dB point)
Loop scan rate:	1000 cycles/second
Input power:	28 V DC, 6 A max.
Output signal:	At He gyromagnetic frequency, approximately 28.02468 Hz/nT. Three volts peak to peak
Dimensions:	Sensor cell - 80 mm diameter x 145 mm length Scan processor - 270 x 120 x 85 mm Control panel - 19 inch rack mount
Weight:	approximately 6 kg.



## APPENDIX D-1

### Specifications - RMS Instruments Automatic Aeromagnetic Digital Compensator

INPUTS:	one or two high sensitivity magnetometers of optical absorption type.
INPUT FREQUENCY RANGE:	70 KHz - 350 KHz - Cs sensor 140 KHz - 700 KHz - K sensor 560 KHz - 2800 KHz - He sensor 850 Hz - 4260 Hz - Overhauser
MAGNETIC FIELD RANGE:	20,000 - 100,000 nT (gamma)
RESOLUTION:	1 pT (picotesla)
COMPENSATION PROCEDURE:	improvement ratio 10 - 20 typical for total field improvement ratio 20 - 100 typical for gradient
ACCURACY OF COMPENSATION:	0.035 nT (gamma) standard deviation for the entire aircraft flight envelope in the bandwidth 0 - 1 Hz typical
DATA OUTPUT RATE:	10 Hz
SYSTEM FREQUENCY RESPONSE:	0 - 0.9 Hz
INTERNAL SYSTEM NOISE:	less than 2 pT (standard deviation in the bandwidth 0 - 1 Hz)
DURATION OF CALIBRATION: FLIGHT MANOUEVRES	5 - 8 minutes typical
VECTOR MAGNETOMETER:	Develco Model 9202-02 (3-axis fluxgate)
MICROCOMPUTER:	SBC-11/21 Plus (DEC) Front End LSI-11/73 (DEC) Main CPU
KEYBOARD:	limited alphanumeric
DISPLAY:	green fluorescent, 80 character self scan panel
OUTPUTS:	serial data communication port: RS232C - max. rate 19.2 K Baud  parallel output port: 16 bit with full handshaking (DRV11-J) (optional)

## APPENDIX D-2

### Specifications - RMS Instruments Automatic Aeromagnetic Digital Compensator

POWER: 28 +/- 4 VDC, 5A, 150 W (for single magnetometer) 7A, 196 W (for gradiometer system)

#### ENVIRONMENTAL:

OPERATING TEMPERATURE: 0 to 50 degrees C

STORAGE TEMPERATURE: -20 to 55 degrees C

RELATIVE HUMIDITY: 0 - 99%, non-condensing

ALTITUDE: 0 - 6000 m (0 - 20,000 ft)

PHYSICAL DATA: console dimensions: 483 x 178 x 440 mm  
console weight: 12.5 kg  
power supply dimensions: 225 x 180 x 220 mm  
power supply weight: 5.5 kg



## APPENDIX E-1

### SPECIFICATIONS - GR820 SPECTROMETER SYSTEM

#### A. Detector Controller

- Maximum number of crystals - 16. Each crystal has individual pole-zero cancellation, semi-gaussian shaping and advanced base line restoration circuitry.
- Continuous, individual-crystal spectrum analysis ensures that optimum system stabilization is achieved. Resolution is calculated by a sophisticated gaussian curve fitting algorithm to perform an accurate centroid analysis of the selected stabilization peak.
- High energy cosmic pulses are accumulated in a separate channel.
- Accurate pile-up rejection for simultaneous pulses allows qualitative gamma-ray spectrum analysis almost independent of the system count rate. Special circuitry analyzes for pulse pile-up and permits only detector signals from single events to be analyzed. Simultaneous events in adjacent crystals are added to reduce the Compton effect.
- Residual pulse pile-up at 100,000 counts/sec are less than 2%.

#### B. Analog to digital converter (ADC)

- 50 Mhz Wilkinson ramp ADC.
- Linearity - integral - less than 0.2% ; - differential - less than 1%.
- Average system dead-time is less than 5 microsec/pulse.
- Live-time channel records the actual system live-time. This data is output with the digital data which allows post correction for system dead-time to an accuracy of 0.1%.
- Number of channels - selection of 256 channels or 512 channel operation.
- Maximum number of counts/channel - 65,535 (16 bits).
- The lower threshold - manually selectable from channel 2 to channel 50 (20-500 keV).
- The upper threshold is set to 3 MeV. All pulses above 3 MeV are accumulated in the cosmic channel as a direct measure of cosmic ray activity.
- ADC offset set from the keyboard.
- The maximum input count rate is 100,000 counts/second.

#### C. System outputs

- Visual display - the front panel display is a 640x200 electroluminescent (EL) high contrast graphics display which allows full spectrum display, system set-up and various parameter monitoring functions. In the spectrum display mode,

## APPENDIX E-2

### SPECIFICATIONS - GR820 SPECTROMETER SYSTEM

the region of interest and cursor may be viewed by channel number or directly in keV.

- The internal channel number to energy level (keV) conversion table compensates for non-linearity of the detector's light output.
- The front panel has a 21 button keyboard for easy operator control.
- The system's operation is fully menu driven.
- Digital outputs
  - RS-232 port (1200 to 19200 baud).
  - IEEE-488 bus output - talk listen/talk only.
  - Geometrics GR-800 output format.
  - Some system functions can be controlled remotely by an external computer via the RS-232 and the IEEE-488 digital ports.
- Analog output
  - 4 channels of roi data can be selected for output on the analog port. The outputs have 10 bit resolution (0-10V). Scaling can be set from the keyboard (100-50K counts/sec FSD) and output data may be raw or stripped using internally stored calibration constants. Analog output wraps at fsd limits and is dead-time corrected.

#### D. Miscellaneous

- Regions of interest (ROI) 8ROIs can be selected. The upper and lower thresholds can be individually set over the entire spectrum range.
- The first 4 ROIs are available for digital and analog output. The second 4 rois are available only for digital output on the RS-232 or the IEEE-488 ports.
- System resolution. Detector resolution is automatically computed for each (and summed crystals) during peak analysis and is displayed for operator monitoring when required. The summed down resolution is also output on the data stream.

System test. At power on, a full system test of all internal pcb handshaking is performed. Included in the testing is the lithium back-up battery, the system ram memory, display handshaking, the systems configuration (options installed), the selected detectors (checked via ADC analysis) and peripheral handshaking response.

- Configuration menus. The configuration menus allow the selection of the number of detectors in use, confidence levels for gain analysis, maximum crystal resolution levels for each detector (with operator warning if levels exceeded), output configurations for analog and digital data and various special display/monitoring functions.
- Maintenance. A set of special menus allows the user to test and calibrate many system functions including system test, ADC offset, low level discriminator etc.
- Power : 28V - 1.25 amps

## APPENDIX E-3

### SPECIFICATIONS - GR820 SPECTROMETER SYSTEM

#### E. Detectors

The crystals are housed in a specially designed hi-impact polystyrene cases using low background materials for minimum signal attenuation. Full thermal and internal shock protection allows the units to be directly mounted to the floor. A very low noise, high voltage power supply is housed in each pack so high voltage is not present in the connecting cables. A unique preamplifier with special processing for signal optimization is used. The GPX-1024 has 4 crystals with a total volume of 16.78 litres

- Outputs : Individual BNC connectors output each crystal's signal separately.
- Size : GPX-1024 : 73x51x30 cms)
- Weight : GPX-1024 : 84 kg
- Power : 28 V @ 0.5 A/crystal pack
- Temperature limitations
  - Closed pack : storage -40° C to +60° C, operation -40° C to +60° C
  - Open pack : not recommended
- Temperature gradient
  - Closed pack : -40° C to +50° C (instantaneous)
  - Open pack : a change of 1° C/hr.

## APPENDIX F-1

### SPECIFICATIONS - G833 HELIUM BASE STATION MAGNETOMETER

Operating range:	20,000 to 95,000 nT
Temperature:	-20 to +50 °C
Sensitivity:	0.0032 nT/root Hz RMS
Bandwidth:	350 Hz (-3dB point)
Loop scan rate:	1000 cycles/second
Input power:	28 V DC, 6 A max
Output signal:	At He gyromagnetic frequency, approximately 28.02468 Hz/nT. Three volts peak to peak
Dimensions:	Sensor cell - 80 mm diameter x 145 mm length Scan processor - 270 x 120 x 85 mm Control panel - 49.26 cm rack mount
Weight:	approximately 6 kg

## APPENDIX F-2

### SPECIFICATIONS - MAGELLAN OEM GPS MODULE

#### Operational Characteristics

Position Update Rate:	1 second continuous (approximate)
Time to First Fix	
Warm Start:	30 seconds (approximate)
(with almanac/date/time/ initial position and ephemeris < 2 hours old)	
Cold Start:	75 seconds 2D/3D 9 approximate)
(with almanac/date/time/initial position)	
Autonomous start:	5 - 12 minutes typical
(no almanac/ephemeris/date/ time/initial position)	

#### Position Accuracy \*

(HDOP < 2, C no > 47 db-Hz, 2D)

Horizontal Position:	25 metres RMS in 2D 30 metres RMS in 3D
Vertical Position:	50 metres RMS

\* with Selective Availability disabled

#### Electrical Characteristics

Power:	
OEM/PS:	9 - 16 VDC 235 mA at 12 VDC typical, 250 mA max
OEM/5V:	5 VDC +/- 0.2 VDC 170 mA
Interfaces:	RS232
Baud Rates:	Jumper - selectable 1200,2400,4800,9600
Receiver Type:	4 channels dedicated to tracking satellites 1 channel dedicated to tracking all other satellites in the sky

#### Firmware Functions

Timing:	Timing pulse ON/OFF UTC or GMT reference Time only mode Single satellite timing default all modes Hour,minute,second,day,month,year Status indicator Satellites in solution Signal Quality
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#### OEM Antenna

Active Quadrifilar Helix

## APPENDIX F-3

### SPECIFICATIONS - G833 HELIUM BASE STATION MAGNETOMETER

#### Input Characteristics

Channels A and B

Frequency Range: DC to 100 Mhz

Signal Operating Range: +5 V to -5 V

Sensitivity:

Sinewave	25 mV RMS Dc to 20 Mhz
	50 mV RMS 20 Mhz to 50 Mhz
	160 mV RMS 50 Mhz to 100 Mhz
Pulse	450 mV pk-pk at 5 ns pulse width

#### Measurement Functions

Resolution: (in Hz) +/- LSD +/- Freq \*1.4 \*Trigger Error/Gate time

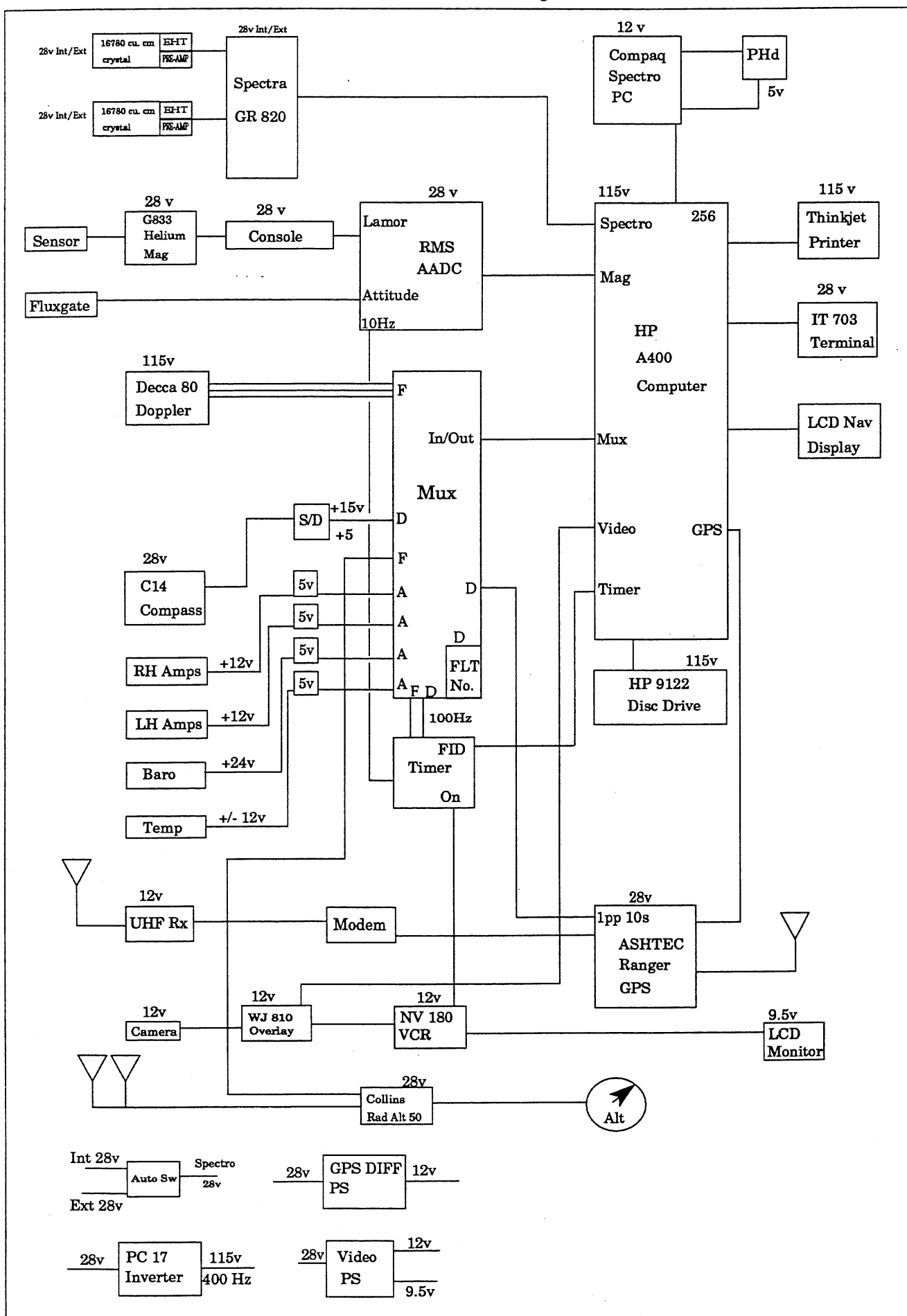
Accuracy: (in Hz) +/- Resolution +/- Time Base Error

#### General

Compatibility: 1 full size slot in any PC/XT, PC/AT or compatible, using DOS 3.0 or higher.  
Compatible with any programming language.

Time Base: Standard 10 Mhz Crystal Oscillator  
Accuracy +/- 100 ppm (0.01 %)

# APPENDIX G AIRCRAFT ACQUISITION SYSTEM



## APPENDIX H-1

### Compensation Results

COMPENSATION 1. Date flown: 16 August 1995  
Dates used: 16 August - 5 September 1995

Air conditioner off      SDU = 0.3350  
                                 SDC = 0.08871  
                                 IR    =     3.8  
                                 VN    =    21.7

Air conditioner on      SDU = 0.3594  
                                 SDC = 0.08337  
                                 IR    =     4.3  
                                 VN    =    22.4

COMPENSATION 2. Date flown: 11 September 1995  
Dates used: 11 September - 12 September 1995

Air conditioner off      SDU = 0.2820  
                                 SDC = 0.02559  
                                 IR    =    11.0  
                                 VN    =    18.3

Air conditioner on      SDU = 0.3398  
                                 SDC = 0.04431  
                                 IR    =     7.7  
                                 VN    =    18.1

COMPENSATION 3. Date flown: 12 September 1995  
Dates used: 12 September - 1 October 1995

Air conditioner off      SDU = 0.3898  
                                 SDC = 0.04028  
                                 IR    =     9.7  
                                 VN    =    18.8

COMPENSATION 4. Date flown: 6 October 1995  
Dates used: 6 October 1995 - 29 October 1995

Air conditioner off      SDU = 0.4145  
                                 SDC = 0.03131  
                                 IR    =    13.2  
                                 VN    =    20.3

Air conditioner on      SDU = 0.5058  
                                 SDC = 0.04430  
                                 IR    =    11.4  
                                 VN    =    22.6



## APPENDIX H-2

### Compensation Results

COMPENSATION 5. Date flown: 20 November 1995  
Dates used: 20 November 1995 - 25 November 1995

Air conditioner off	SDU = 0.3553
	SDC = 0.04854
	IR = 7.3
	VN = 19.7

Air conditioner on	SDU = 0.4017
	SDC = 0.05733
	IR = 7.0
	VN = 21.0

SDU = Standard deviation of the data recorded during manoeuvres.

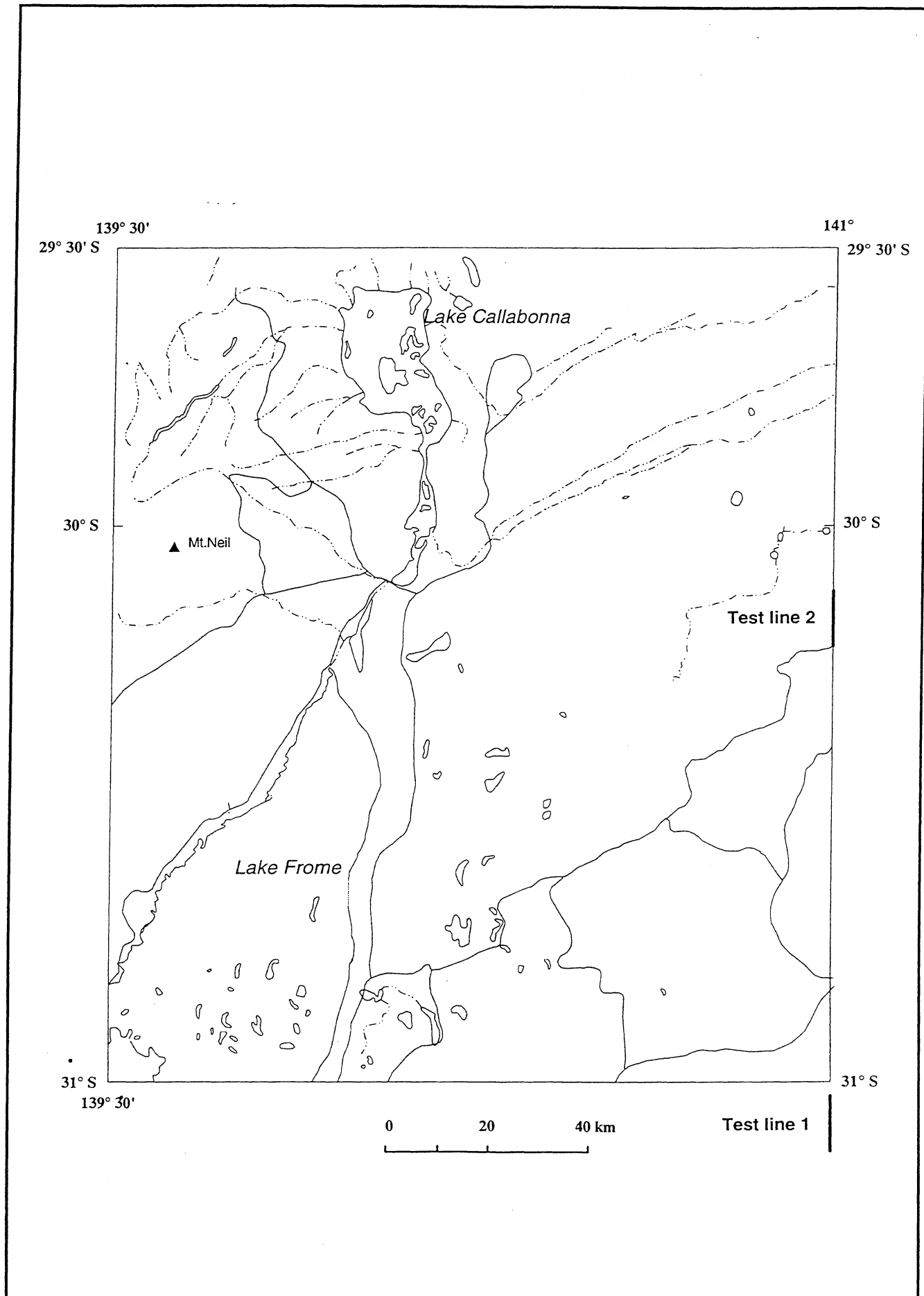
SDC = Standard deviation of the data recorded during manoeuvres after compensation corrections have been applied.

IR = Improvement ratio =  $SDU / SDC$

VN = Vector Norm, a measure of the degree of difficulty in calculating the coefficients.

Appendix I

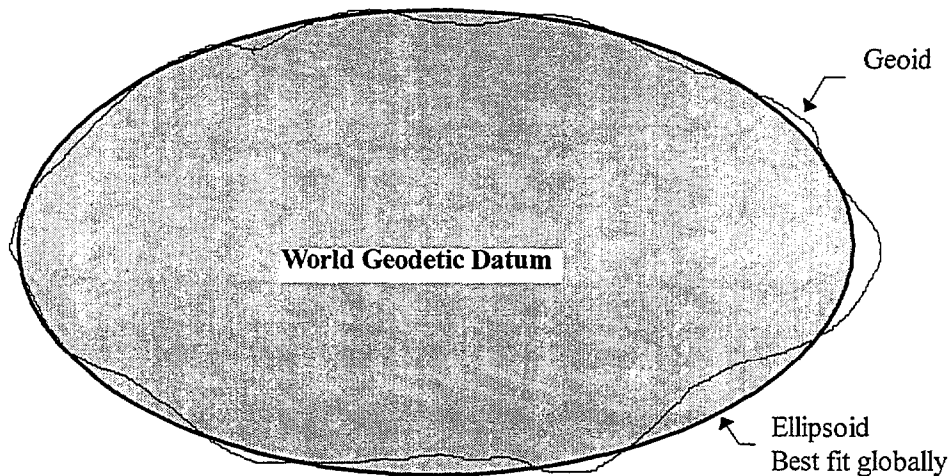
Gamma-ray Spectrometer Test Line Location



## APPENDIX J

### The World Geodetic System 1984 Datum

For geophysical surveys the real shape of the earth has to be considered. An ellipsoid of revolution around the earth's north-south axis approximates the earth's shape. This figure is called the spheroid. The mean sea level equipotential surface describing the shape of the earth is known as the geoid.



Calculated positions from the GPS are in the World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS84). The WGS84 datum is a global geocentric reference datum that has as its origin the Earth's centre of mass.

This geocentric datum comprises a spheroid (also known as an ellipsoid) oriented and located in such a manner as to "best-fit" the geoid over the entire earth.

The WGS84 datum is defined by a semi-major axis ( $a$ ) and flattening ( $f$ ) of the selected ellipsoid.

$$\begin{array}{rcl} a & = & 6378137 \text{ m} \\ f & = & 1/298.2572 \end{array}$$

## APPENDIX K

### Corrections to Differential GPS Navigation Data

#### (a) Position calculation delay correction

A correction due to the finite time taken for the GPS system to calculate a position and transfer the information to the acquisition system. A delay of 0.6 seconds has been determined for calculations using up to eight satellites by flying clover leaf patterns over a reference point. This value is considered to be representative and was used for all delay corrections.

#### (b) Fiducial synchronisation correction

A correction due to the time lag between when a GPS position is available to the acquisition system and when the next fiducial is available to pair the position with.

#### (c) "Ranger" corrections

Using the range data which are recorded internally on both GPS receivers every five seconds, "Ranger" calculates the correct positions at five second intervals along the flight path. These corrected positions are utilised when correcting the aircraft raw position data which are recorded every second.

Discontinuities (steps) sometimes occur in raw GPS data. These are also manifested as steps in the correction set.

When such steps in the raw GPS data occur between successive correction values, the corrections are linearly interpolated to the step boundary using corrections from the appropriate side of the step.

If multiple steps in the raw GPS data occur between successive correction values it is impossible to interpolate corrections over this interval, in which case the intervening GPS data are set to undefined.

#### (d) Low pass filter

The problem described in (c) can lead to small steps in the data where the original steps were too small to detect so were not corrected. A low pass 11 point convolution filter with a cut-off wavelength of 300 m was passed over the data.

#### (e) Reference navigation data to position of magnetometer sensor

The calculated GPS positions refer to the position of the GPS receiver's antenna. Since the magnetometer is the most position sensitive instrument, all position data is shifted 11.4 metres toward the rear of the aircraft to correspond with the position of the magnetometer's sensor.

#### (f) Doppler infill of gaps

Whenever gaps (<5 km) in the GPS data occurred they were infilled with data generated from the doppler navigation system. Gaps in the GPS data greater than ten kilometres were reflowed.

# APPENDIX L-1

## Geophysical Maps

Name	Type	Contour Interval / Vertical Scale	Reference Number
1:250 000 scale			
Frome	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-1/H54-10/1
"	TC Contours	100 cps	22-1/H54-10/2
"	DEM Contours	5 m	22-1/H54-10/19
Callabonna	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-1/H54-6/1
"	TC Contours	100 cps	22-1/H54-6/2
"	DEM Contours	5 m	22-1/H54-6/19
1:100 000 scale			
Paralana	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-6/1-4
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-6/2-4
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-6/3-4
"	TMI Profiles	250 nT/cm	22-2/H54-6/4-4
Callabonna	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-6/1-5
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-6/2-5
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-6/3-5
"	TMI Profiles	200 nT/cm	22-2/H54-6/4-5
Tilcha	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-6/1-6
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-6/2-6
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-6/3-6
"	TMI Profiles	100 nT/cm	22-2/H54-6/4-6
Moolawatana	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-1
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-1
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-1
"	TMI Profiles	200 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-1
Cootabarlow	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-2
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-2
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-2
"	TMI Profiles	200 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-2
Coonee	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-3
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-3
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-3
"	TMI Profiles	100 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-3
Frome	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-4
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-4
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-4
"	TMI Profiles	100 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-4
Coonarbine	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-5
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-5
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-5
"	TMI Profiles	100 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-5

## APPENDIX L-2

### Geophysical Maps

Name	Type	Contour Interval / Vertical Scale	Reference Number
Thurlooka	TMI Contours	5 nT	22-2/H54-10/1-6
"	TC Contours	50 cps	22-2/H54-10/2-6
"	Flight Line System		22-2/H54-10/3-6
"	TMI Profiles	100 nT/cm	22-2/H54-10/4-6

## APPENDIX M-1

# AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

## CONTENTS

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- 1.2 GENERAL FILE STRUCTURE
- 1.3 CHANNELS AND SAMPLES
- 1.4 SEGMENT DIRECTORY RECORD
- 1.5 DATA RECORD
- 1.6 NO DATA VALUE
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### 2. PHYSICAL FORMAT FOR MAGNETIC TAPES

- 2.1 GENERAL
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- 2.3 TAPE STRUCTURE
- 2.4 PHYSICAL RECORDS AND BLOCKS

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- 3.1 HEADER RECORD
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## APPENDIX M-2

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

#### 1. THE AGSO SEQUENTIAL FILE STRUCTURE

##### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

This appendix describes the general sequential file structure used by AGSO to store airborne geophysical data. For the purpose of this survey nine data chains are involved for each line and tie. They are:

- channel 4 edition 1 (processed navigation)
- channel 4 edition 2 (processed magnetics)
- channel 4 edition 3 (processed spectrometrics)
- channel 4 edition 4 (processed digital elevation model)
- channel 5 edition 1 (doppler)
- channel 6 edition 1 (raw spectrometrics)
- channel 8 edition 1 (raw magnetics)
- channel 10 edition 1 (multi-channel spectra)
- channel 14 edition 1 (pressure, temperature, cosmic data)
- channel 16 edition 1 (raw navigation)

##### 1.2 GENERAL FILE STRUCTURE

The information pertaining to each traverse (line or tie) is held on the file as a separate entity called a segment. Segments are separated from each other by industry standard EOF records. The end of the file is indicated by two or more consecutive EOF records. Each segment consists of two types of records. Both types are 5120 characters long.

1. Segment Directory Record (SDR) : the first record on each segment. It defines the data content of the segment.
2. Data Records (DAR's) : hold the measured data values. The general structure is shown in Figure 1.

##### 1.3 CHANNELS AND SAMPLES

Data are recorded at regular intervals in time along a traverse. The data recorded at one instant of time are held as any ordered set or sub-set. Each set is held logically distinct and referred to as a channel. The data records in a segment hold all the information for one channel in the form of a data chain, then all the data for the next channel and so on for as many channels as the segment holds.

Each channel is uniquely defined by a channel number and an edition number. The measurement(s) taken for a channel at a given time is called a sample. Samples are held within each channel in increasing order of fiducial (time).



## APPENDIX M-3

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

In defining channels the channel number can be used to define the sample format and the edition type of the data. For example, within AGSO, samples with format (longitude, latitude, value, value....) have a channel number of 4 with edition 2 for magnetics and edition 3 for radiometrics.

#### 1.4 SEGMENT DIRECTORY RECORD (SDR)

Lines and ties are uniquely identified as follows :

1. Project number: a unique number to identify the survey.
2. Group number : a unique number within a survey for each flight made. That is, several lines may be recorded on one flight (group). AGSO convention is for group numbers to lie between 001 and 999 inclusive.
3. Segment numbers : a unique number within a survey for a line or tie. AGSO convention is for ordinary line numbers to lie between 1000 and 9999 inclusive and tie line numbers between 100 and 999 inclusive.

The segment directory record identifies the data segment at Project, Group and Segment level and defines the data channels, their structure and the location of their data chains in the segment. Each SDR consists of one or more 10 word blocks. The first , the Segment Identification Block (SIB), identifies the segment and gives the number of data channels held in the segment.

For this survey the number of data channels is nine as mentioned in the introduction. Subsequent blocks, one for each data channel, define the data channels and their location within the segment. These are called Channel Identification Blocks (CIB's). A typical SDR is shown in Figure 1 and its exact format given in Table 1. All unused words in the SDR are set to zero.

The last word in the record in the past has been used as check sum and represents the sum of all the other words in the record. The check sum word is no longer used and is set to zero.

The overall record format is 2I9, 509I10, I12.

#### 1.5 DATA RECORD (DAR)

These each contain 512 values. The first two are fiducials giving the fiducial range of the samples contained in the record. The next 508 represent data values, the second last is always zero (to maintain compatibility with our random access file format) and the last is a record check sum representing the sum of all other values in the record.

## APPENDIX M-4

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

If a record is the last one in a data chain for a given channel all unused values are set to zero, with the next channel commencing at the start of the next data record. The N data records in a segment are numbered from 2 to N+1, the SDR being regarded as record one in a segment, with records for a given channel following each other sequentially. The data record addresses in the channel identification block of the SDR refer to this sequential numbering of the data records. A typical segment is shown in Figure 1 and the exact format of a data record given in Table 2.

The overall format of each data record is : 2I9, 509I10, I12.

#### 1.6 NO DATA VALUE

For a variety of reasons it is sometimes necessary to flag a data value to indicate it is to be ignored. This is achieved by replacing the data word in question by the value 536870912. If a gap exists in a data chain each word of every sample involved must be replaced by 536870912, the so-called missing value. Thus a 1:1 correspondence is maintained between the fiducials encompassed by a data chain and its samples.

#### 1.7 STANDARD DATA CHANNELS

The standard AGSO data channels are :

- channel 4 edition 1 (processed navigation)
- channel 4 edition 2 (processed magnetics)
- channel 4 edition 3 (processed spectrometrics)
- channel 4 edition 4 (processed digital elevation model)
- channel 5 edition 1 (doppler)
- channel 6 edition 1 (raw spectrometrics)
- channel 8 edition 1 (raw magnetics)
- channel 10 edition 1 (multi-channel spectra)
- channel 14 edition 1 (pressure, temperature, cosmic data)
- channel 16 edition 1 (raw navigation)

##### C4 E1 - Navigation

Channel number = 4

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 2 words

word 1 = Longitude in degrees \* 1 000 000

word 2 = Latitude in degrees \* 1 000 000

## APPENDIX M-5

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

#### **C4 E2 - Corrected Total Magnetic Intensity**

Channel number = 4

Edition number = 2

Sample size = 4 words

word 1 and word 2 as for C4 E1

word 3 = final (non micro-levelled) TMI (nT) \* 1000

word 4 = final micro-levelled TMI (nT) \* 1000

#### **C4 E3 - Corrected Gamma-ray Spectrometer Data**

Channel number = 4

Edition number = 3

Sample size = 7 words

word 1 and word 2 as for C4 E1

word 3 = final Total Count (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 4 = final Potassium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 5 = final Uranium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 6 = final Thorium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 7 = Altitude in metres above ground level

#### **C4 E4 - Corrected Digital Elevation Model Data**

Channel number = 4

Edition number = 2

Sample size = 4 words

word 1 and word 2 as for C4 E1

word 3 = final Aircraft Elevation (metres above sea level) \* 100

word 4 = final Terrain Elevation (metres above sea level) \* 100

#### **C5 E1 - Doppler navigation data**

Channel number = 5

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 2 words

word 1 = doppler along track (km)

word 2 = doppler across track (m)

#### **C6 E1 - Raw spectrometer data, Raw VLF data.**

Channel number = 6

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 7 words

word 1 = Total count (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 2 = Potassium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 3 = Uranium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 4 = Thorium (counts/sec) \* 1000

word 5 = Altitude in metres above ground level

word 6 = VLF Total Field (% of primary field)

word 7 = VLF Vertical Quadrature (% of primary field)

## APPENDIX M-6

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

#### **C8 E1 - Raw Magnetics**

Channel number = 8

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 1 word

word 1 = TMI \* 1000

#### **C10 E1 - Multi-channel spectra**

Channel number = 10

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 290 words

word 1 = start fiducial for spectra

word 2 = integration time for spectra (seconds)

word 3 - 34 = define energy range of spectra, fiducials etc.

Some control words yet to be defined.

word 35 = counts in channel 0 (\* 1000)

word 36 = counts in channel 1 (\* 1000)

word 290 = counts in channel 255 (\* 1000)

#### **C14 E1 - Pressure and Temperature**

Channel number = 14

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 7 words

word 1 = pressure in millibars \* 10

word 2 = temperature in degrees celsius \* 10

word 3 - 6 = no longer used

word 7 = cosmic channel (counts) \* 1000

#### **C16 E1 - Raw GPS data**

Channel number = 16

Edition number = 1

Sample size = 4 words

word 1 = Longitude in degrees \* 1 000 000

word 2 = Latitude in degrees \* 1 000 000

word 3 = GPS time in seconds \* 1000.

GPS time is recorded in seconds from midnight the previous Sunday

word 4 = Lag time. Time difference between time when a position is calculated and time until the next fiducial is generated by the data acquisition system. (hundredths of a second)

## **APPENDIX M-7**

# **AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA**

## **2. PHYSICAL FORMAT FOR MAGNETIC TAPES**

### **2.1 GENERAL**

Each magnetic tape (MT) consists of a sequence of segments each segment consisting of one or more physical records. Segments are to be separated by one EOF markers. The end of all information on a tape must be flagged by two or more consecutive EOF markers. Industry standard EOF records apply. Records are to be fixed length and each block is to contain one record.

### **2.2 PHYSICAL PARAMETERS OF TAPES**

- a. Tapes are 12.7 mm (0.5 inch) wide, 9 track industry standard magnetic tapes.
- b. Each tape has an external label identifying the airborne survey, character code, recording density, date tape written and the reel number in the set.

### **2.3 TAPE STRUCTURE**

- a. 9 track
- b. Written in ASCII
- c. Recording density of 6250 bpi
- d. International Standards Organisation end-of-block markers (EOB)
- e. International Standards Organisation end-of-file markers (EOF)
- f. No multi-tape files
- g. Multi-file tapes can be expected. Files will not span tapes.
- h. Last file on each tape shall end with at least two EOF's.

### **2.4 PHYSICAL RECORDS AND BLOCKS**

- a. Fixed length records of 5120 characters
- b. One record per block

## APPENDIX M-8

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

#### 3. GRID FILE FORMAT

##### 3.1 HEADER RECORD

The first record on the file defines the content of the grid, including:

- a. Origin in latitude and longitude.
- b. Grid cell size.
- c. Number of rows and columns in the grid.
- d. Storage mode, i.e. whether the data is stored row by row or column by column. In general the data is stored by row.
- e. The exact header record format is in Table 3.

##### 3.2 DATA RECORDS

Each data record contains 320 values in E16.10 format. No location data is held in the data records - the location of a grid point is determined by its sequence within the file. The data for the grid may be sequenced in row or column order (i.e. row by row or column by column respectively). Each row or column is written on consecutive records and begins at the start of a new record. If the rows/columns do not contain a multiple of 320 values the last record for each row/column is padded with zeros. Any point in the grid which is undefined is set to -9999.0.

In ROW mode , rows are sequenced from north to south and within each row values are ordered from west to east.

In COLUMN mode, columns are sequenced from west to east and within each column values are ordered from north to south.

## APPENDIX M-9

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

TABLE 1

#### SEGMENT DIRECTORY RECORD FORMAT

##### 1. SEGMENT IDENTIFICATION BLOCK

WORD	CONTENT AND USE	FORMAT
1	PROJECT IDENTIFICATION	I9
2	GROUP IDENTIFICATION	I9
3	SEGMENT IDENTIFICATION	I10
4	NUMBER OF CHANNELS ON SEGMENT	I10
5	DATE CODE - YYMMDD	I10
6	FIDUCIAL FACTOR - (fiducial size in seconds)	I10
7	TIME OF DAY AT FIDUCIAL ZERO IN SECONDS	I10
8	BEARING IN DEGREES (0-359) MEASURED EAST OF NORTH	I10
9	ALTITUDE IN METRES ABOVE SEA LEVEL	I10
10	GROUND CLEARANCE IN METRES	I10

##### 2. CHANNEL IDENTIFICATION BLOCK (for the Nth channel)

WORD	CONTENT AND USE	FORMAT
1	CHANNEL CODE	I10
2	EDITION NUMBERS	I10
3	FIDUCIAL INTERVAL BETWEEN SAMPLES	I10
4	NUMBER OF DATA VALUES (WORDS) PER SAMPLE	I10
5	ADDRESS OF FIRST DATA RECORD FOR CHANNEL	I10
6	ADDRESS OF LAST SAMPLE IN DATA CHAIN	I10
7	FIDUCIAL OF FIRST SAMPLE IN DATA CHAIN	I10
8	FIDUCIAL OF LAST SAMPLE IN DATA CHAIN	I10
9	UNUSED - SET TO ZERO	I10
10	UNUSED - SET TO ZERO	I10

## APPENDIX M-10

### AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

TABLE 2

#### DATA RECORD FORMAT

WORD	CONTENT AND USE	FORMAT
1	FIDUCIAL AT FIRST DATA SAMPLE IN RECORD	I9
2	FIDUCIAL AT LAST DATA SAMPLE IN RECORD	I9
3	FIRST WORD OF FIRST SAMPLE	I10
4	SECOND WORD OF FIRST SAMPLE	I10
	FIRST WORD OF SECOND SAMPLE	I10
	SECOND WORD OF SECOND SAMPLE	I10
	ETC	
511	ALWAYS UNUSED - SET TO ZERO	I10
512	ALWAYS UNUSED - SET TO ZERO	I12

- NOTE:
1. A data sample can be of any length greater than zero.
  2. Each record contains an integral number of samples. This may lead to several unused words at the end of the record which are set to zero.  
  
i.e. If a sample is 7 words long 72 samples will fit in a data record and words 507-510 will be set to zero.



# APPENDIX M-11

## AGSO ARCHIVE DATA, GRID AND MAGNETIC TAPE FORMAT FOR AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL DATA

TABLE 3

### GRID HEADER RECORD FORMAT

CHARACTER POSITION	FIELD LENGTH	FORTRAN FORMAT	CONTENT
1-60	60	6A10	Grid Identification
61-170	10	11A10	Facts defining data acquisition/processing
171-180	10	A10	x,y units defining grid, Usually degrees.
181-192	12	E12.6	x origin of surface. Bottom left hand corner.
193-204	12	E12.6	y origin of surface. Bottom left hand corner.
205-214	10	A10	Type of z data in grid (e.g. TMI).
215-216	2	A2	Blanks.
217-228	12	I12	Number of data records per column or row.
229-240	12	E12.6	Grid increment in the x direction
241-252	12	E12.6	Grid increment in the y direction
253-262	10	A10	Time when original surface created (hh.mm.ss).
263-286	24	2A10,A4	Filter used on original z data.
287-310	12	2E12.6	x,y co-ordinate of the bottom left hand corner of the grid. Same as x,y origin.
311-320	10	A10	Date of creation of surface (dd/mm/yy).
321-344	24	2A10,A4	Blanks.
345-368	12	2E12.6	x,y co-ordinate of top right hand corner of grid. NOTE: these values are too large by one grid increment for tapes created prior to 01/06/85.
369-373	5	I5	Number of rows in the grid.
374-378	5	I5	Number of columns in the grid.
379-382	4	A4	Blanks.
383-388	6	A6	Defines if the grid is stored in column mode (COLUMN) or row mode (ROW).
389-5120			Blank filled.