

# TOOCAN Data Format

Update : 12/11/2019

version 2.06

## [Filename]

TOOCAN-REGION-YYYY0MM0DD0-YYYY1MM1DD1.dat.gz

YYYY0 : yearStart  
MM0 : monthStart  
DD0 : dayStart  
YYYY1 : yearEnd  
MM1 : monthEnd  
DD1 : dayEnd

ex : TOOCAN-AFRICA-20140601-20140630.dat.gz

## [Reference]

Fiolleau T. and Roca R. 2013 : An Algorithm for the Detection and Tracking of Tropical Mesoscale Convective Systems Using Infrared Images From Geostationary Satellite. IEEE Transactions on Geoscience and Remote Sensing, v. 99, p. 1-14

## [Contact]

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# 1 Header

Global Attributes	Data type
#####	a60
#####	a60
TOOCAN Version	25x, a0
Institution	25x, a0
creator_name	25x, a0
contributor_name	25x, a0
Satellite	25x, a0
Region	25x, a0
time_coverage_start	25x, i0
time_coverage_end	25x, i0
Temporal resolution	25x, i0
Spatial resolution	25x, f0, a0
Lonmin - Lonmax	25x, i6, a3, i6
Latmin - Latmax	25x, i6, a3, i6
Nb columns	25x, i0
Nb lines	25x, i0
Population of MCS	25x, i0
#####	a60
#####	a60

Example :

```
#####
#####
# TOOCAN version      :      2.06
# institution         : CNRS/LEGOS/IPSL
# creator_name       : Thomas Fiolleau
# contributor_name   :      Remy Roca
# Satellite          :      MSG2
# Region             :      AFRICA
# time_coverage_start :      20120401
# time_coverage_end  :      20120430
# temporal resolution :      30 min
# Spatial resolution  :      0.04 degree
# Lonmin - Lonmax    :      -55 -    55
# Latmin - Latmax    :      -40 -    40
# Nb columns         :      2751
# Nb lines           :      2001
# Population of MCS  :      27483
#####
#####
```

## 2 Integrated MCS morphological parameters

Parameters	Description	Units	Data type
<b>==&gt;</b>	Indication for a new MCS		3x
<b>label</b>	Label of the MCS in the segmented images		15d
<b>qltyMCS</b>	Quality flag indicating if the MCS initiates or dissipates due to missing images		8d
<b>classif</b>	Classification of the MCSs	1→ MCS with a duration < 5hr 2→ MCS with a duration ≥ 5hr and described by a uniq maximum of their cold surfaces along their life cycles 3→ MCS with a duration ≥ 5hr and described by several maximums of their cold surfaces along their life cycles	8d
<b>duration</b>	Life time duration	number of frames	12d
<b>UTimeInit</b>	Universal Time of the MCS initiation	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: frame (1-48)	12.2lf
<b>LTimeInit</b>	Local time of the MCS initiation initiation	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: fraction of day	12.4lf
<b>LonInit</b>	Longitude of the MCS center of mass at its initiation	degrees	8.2lf
<b>latInit</b>	Latitude of the MCS center of mass at its initiation	degrees	8.2lf
<b>UTimeEnd</b>	Coordinated Universal Time of the MCS dissipation	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: frame (1-48)	12.2lf
<b>LTimeEnd</b>	Local time of the MCS dissipation	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: fraction of day	12.4lf
<b>LonEnd</b>	Longitude of the MCS center of mass at its dissipation	degrees	8.2lf
<b>latEnd</b>	Latitude of the MCS center of mass at its dissipation	degrees	8.2lf
<b>velocity</b>	Average velocity of the MCS from its initiation to its dissipation	m/s	12.2lf
<b>distance</b>	Distance covered by the MCS	km	12.2lf
<b>lonMin</b>	Minimum longitude of the MCS along its life cycle	degrees	8.2lf
<b>latMin</b>	Minimum latitude of the MCS along its life cycle	degrees	8.2lf
<b>lonMax</b>	Maximum longitude of the MCS along its life cycle	degrees	8.2lf
<b>latMax</b>	Maximum latitude of the MCS along its life cycle	degrees	8.2lf
<b>TbMin</b>	Minimum brightness temperature of the MCS along its life cycle	K	8d
<b>maxSurf235K_pix</b>	Maximum cold cloud surface reached by the MCS along its life cycle at 235K	number of pixels	17d

<b>maxSurf235K_km2</b>	Maximum cold cloud surface reached by the MCS along its life cycle at 235K	km <sup>2</sup>	17.2lf
<b>maxSurf220K_km2</b>	Maximum cold cloud surface reached by the MCS along its life cycle at 220K	km <sup>2</sup>	17.2lf
<b>maxSurf210K_km2</b>	Maximum cold cloud surface reached by the MCS along its life cycle at 210K	km <sup>2</sup>	17.2lf
<b>maxSurf200K_km2</b>	Maximum cold cloud surface reached by the MCS along its life cycle at 200K	km <sup>2</sup>	17.2lf
<b>coldCloudi</b>	MCS Cold Cloudiness at 235K from its initiation to its dissipation	km <sup>2</sup>	17.2lf

## qltyMCS :

**first digit** = MCS Initiation error

- 1: OK
- 2: MCS initiation explained by a recovery of the tracking due to a minimum of 5 successive missing GEO images
- 3: MCS initiation explained by the transition from a GEO global mode to a rapid scan mode.

**second digit** = MCS Dissipation error

- 1: OK
- 2: MCS dissipation explained by a recovery of the tracking due to a minimum of 5 successive missing GEO images
- 3: MCS dissipation explained by the transition from a GEO global mode to a rapid scan mode.

**third digit** = MCS Edge error

- 1: OK
- 2: MCS impacted by the GEO image boundaries along its life cycle
- 3: MCS impacted by the GEO image boundaries in a rapid scan mode along its life cycle.
- 4: MCS impacted by missing/bad pixels

**two last digits** = number of images interpolated along the MCS life cycle

Example:

qltyMCS = 11100

- First digit =1 → MCS initiation OK
- Second digit = 1 → MCS dissipation OK
- Third digit = 1 → MCS not impacted by the image boundaries
- Two last digit = 00 → No interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

qltyMCS = 11108

- First digit =1 → MCS initiation OK
- Second digit = 1 → MCS dissipation OK
- Third digit = 1 → MCS not impacted by the image boundaries
- Two last digit = 08 → 8 interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

qltyMCS = 11200

- First digit =1 → MCS initiation OK
- Second digit = 1 → MCS dissipation OK
- Third digit = 2 → MCS impacted by the image boundaries
- Two last digit = 00 → No interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

qltyMCS = 11300

- First digit =1 → MCS initiation OK
- Second digit = 1 → MCS dissipation OK
- Third digit = 3 → MCS impacted by the image boundaries in a rapid scan mode (GOES-13 and GOES-15)
- Two last digit = 00 → No interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

qltyMCS = 13100

- First digit =1 → MCS initiation OK
- Second digit = 3 → MCS dissipation due to the transition from a GEO global mode to a rapid scan mode
- Third digit = 1 → MCS not impacted by the image boundaries
- Two last digit = 00 → No interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

qltyMCS = 21100

- First digit =2            → MCS initiation explained by a recovery of the tracking due to a minimum of 5 successive missing GEO images.
- Second digit = 1        → MCS dissipation OK
- Third digit = 1         → MCS not impacted by the image boundaries
- Two last digit = 00     → No interpolated GEO images during the MCS tracking

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**Classif:**

Classification of the MCSs

- 1 → MCS with a duration < 5hr  
2 → MCS with a duration ≥ 5hr and described by a unique maximum of their cold surfaces along their life cycles  
3 → MCS with a duration ≥ 5hr and described by several maximums of their cold surfaces along their life cycles

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**UTimeinit / UTimeEnd:**

UTimeinit = 16256.25

UTC Day = 16256 since the 1st January 1970

frame = 25

UTC Hour = (Slot-1) × (60 / temporal\_resolution) = 12 hr

UTC Minute = (60 / temporal\_resolution) × ( (Slot-1) modulo (60 / temporal\_resolution) )

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**LTimeinit / LTimeEnd:**

LTimeinit = 16256.3386

Local day = 16256 since the 1st January 1970

Local hour = 0.3386 × 24 hr = 8.1264 hr

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**duration = number of images**

duration [hr] = duration [slot] × (60 / temporal\_resolution)

### 3 MCS morphological parameters along their life cycles

Parameters	Description	Units	Data type
qItyGEO	Flag Indicating the IR missing image	0 → missing of the IR image and interpolation of the TOOCAN segmented image 1 → presence of the IR image	8d
Tbmin	Minimum brightness temperature	K	8d
Tbavg	Average brightness temperature	K	8d
UTime	Coordinated Universal Time of the MCS in number of days since the 1st January 1970 plus the slot	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: frame (1-48)	12.2lf
LTime	Local time of the MCS in number of days since the 1st January 1970 plus the fraction of the day	- Integer part: number of days since the 1st January - Decimal part: fraction of day	12.4lf
lon	Longitude of the center of mass	degrees	8.2lf
lat	Latitude of the center of mass	degrees	8.2lf
jcm	Column of the center of mass in the image	Indices of the column	8d
icm	Line of the center of mass in the image	Indices of the line	8d
velocity	Instantaneous velocity	m/s	12.2lf
sminor_220K	Semi-minor axis of the ellipse at a 220K threshold	km	12.2lf
smajor_220K	Semi-major axis of the ellipse at a 220K threshold	Km	12.2lf
e_220K	Eccentricity of the ellipse for a 220K threshold	$\frac{S_{minor\_220K}}{S_{major\_220K}}$	12.2lf
angle_220K	Orientation of the ellipse at a 220K threshold	degrees	12.2lf
sminor_235K	Semi-minor axis of the ellipse at a 235K threshold	km	12.2lf
smajor_235K	Semi-major axis of the ellipse at a 235K threshold	Km	12.2lf
e_235K	Eccentricity of the ellipse at a 235K threshold	$\frac{S_{minor\_235K}}{S_{major\_235K}}$	12.2lf
angle_235K	Orientation of the ellipse at a 235K threshold	degrees	12.2lf
surf235K_pix	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 235K threshold	number of pixels	15d
surf210K_pix	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 210K threshold	number of pixels	15d
surf235K_km2	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 235k threshold	km <sup>2</sup>	15.2lf
surf220K_km2	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 220k threshold	km <sup>2</sup>	15.2lf
surf210K_km2	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 210k threshold	km <sup>2</sup>	15.2lf
surf200K_km2	Cold cloud surface of the convective cluster for a 200k threshold	km <sup>2</sup>	15.2lf

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**qltyGEO** = Flag Indicating the IR missing image

0 → missing of the IR image at this time and interpolation of the TOOCAN segmented image  
1 → presence of the IR image

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### **UTime**

UTime = 16256.25

- UTC<sub>Day</sub> = 16256 since the 1st January 1970
- Slot = 25
- UTC<sub>Hour</sub> =  $\left( (slot - 1) \times \left( \frac{60}{temporal\_resolution} \right) \right)$
- UTC<sub>Minute</sub> =  $\left( \frac{60}{temporal\_resolution} \right) \times \left( (slot - 1) \text{ modulo } \left( \frac{60}{temporal\_resolution} \right) \right)$

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### **LTime**

LTime = 16256.3386

- Local<sub>Day</sub> = 16256 since the 1st January 1970
- Local<sub>Hour</sub> = 0.3386 × 24 hr = 8.1264 hr