GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEMS DIRECTORATE
SYSTEMS ENGINEERING & INTEGRATION
INTERFACE SPECIFICATION
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NAVSTAR GPS Space Segment/Navigation User Segment Interfaces

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The NAV data contains the requisite data for relating GPS time to UTC. The accuracy of this data during the transmission interval shall be such that it relates GPS time (maintained by the MCS of the CS) to UTC (USNO) within 90 nanoseconds (one sigma). This data is generated by the CS; therefore, the accuracy of this relationship may degrade if for some reason the CS is unable to upload data to a SV. At this point, it is assumed that alternate sources of UTC are no longer available, and the relative accuracy of the GPS/UTC relationship will be sufficient for users. Range error components (e.g. SV clock and position) contribute to the GPS time transfer error, and under normal operating circumstances (two frequency time transfers from SV(s) whose navigation message indicates a URA of eight meters or less), this corresponds to a 97 nanosecond (one sigma) apparent uncertainty at the SV. Propagation delay errors and receiver equipment biases unique to the user add to this time transfer uncertainty.

The NAV data contains the requisite data for relating GPS time to UTC. The accuracy of this data during the transmission interval shall be such that it relates GPS time (maintained by the MCS of the CS) to UTC (USNO) within 20 nanoseconds (one sigma). This data is generated by the CS; therefore, the accuracy of this relationship may degrade if for some reason the CS is unable to upload data to a SV. At this point, it is assumed that alternate sources of UTC are no longer available, and the relative accuracy of the GPS/UTC relationship will be sufficient for users. Range error components (e.g. SV clock and position) contribute to the GPS time transfer error, and under normal operating circumstances (two frequency time transfers from SV(s) whose navigation message indicates a URA of eight meters or less), this corresponds to a 28 nanosecond (one sigma) apparent uncertainty at the SV. Propagation delay errors and receiver equipment biases unique to the user add to this time transfer uncertainty.