

NanoCom Link S, X, SX User Manual

Guidelines for Usage of the NanoCom Link S, X, and SX Radio Products



NanoCom Link S, X, SX User Manual

Guidelines for Usage of the NanoCom Link S, X, and SX Radio Products

© Copyright 2023 GomSpace A/S. All rights reserved.

Document reference: MAN 1045187

Source reference: doc-nanocom-link-sx-user-manual

Date: May 30, 2023

Revision: 1.2

Information contained in this document is up-to-date and correct as at the date of issue. As GomSpace A/S cannot control or anticipate the conditions under which this information may be used, each user should review the information in specific context of the planned use. To the maximum extent permitted by law, GomSpace A/S will not be responsible for damages of any nature resulting from the use or reliance upon the information contained in this document. No express or implied warranties are given other than those implied mandatory by law.



GomSpace A/S

Langagervej 6, 9220 Aalborg East

Denmark

Phone: +45 71 741 741

www.gomspace.com

Contents

List of Figures	iv
List of Tables	v
List of Abbreviations	vi
1 Introduction	2
1.1 Purpose	2
1.2 Scope	2
1.3 Structure	2
1.4 Related Documents	2
2 Getting Started	3
2.1 Unpacking and Handling Precautions	3
2.2 Included Components	3
2.2.1 SDR unit	3
2.2.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products	4
2.2.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products	5
2.3 Connecting the Components	7
2.3.1 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products	7
2.3.2 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products	7
2.4 Powering the Components	7
2.4.1 SDR unit	7
2.4.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products	7
2.4.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products	7
2.5 Communicating over Debug Serial Interface	8
2.6 Bootstrapping the Components	8
2.6.1 SDR unit	8
2.6.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products	8
2.6.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products	9
2.7 Enabling RF Transmission	9
2.7.1 Enabling S-band transmission for S and SX products	9
2.7.2 Enabling X-band transmission for X and SX products	10
3 System Overview	12
3.1 Data Plane	13
3.1.1 Data Exchange with Spacecraft Bus	13
3.1.2 Data Exchange via S-band or X-band with Bidirectional Communication	13
3.1.3 Data Exchange via X-band with Unidirectional Communication	13
3.2 Control Plane	13
3.3 Storage	13
4 Configuring the Radio Parameters	15
4.1 Configuring the CCSDS S-band Radio for S and SX products	15
4.2 Configuring the DVB-S2 X-band Radio for X and SX products	16

5	IP Networking	17
5.1	Interfaces with IP Capabilities	17
5.2	Addresses and Routing in Space Segment	18
5.3	Addresses and Routing in Ground Segment	18
6	Streaming Data over S-band	20
6.1	Payload Prerequisites	20
6.2	Configuration	20
6.3	CCSDS S-band Radio Configuration	21
6.4	Ground-station Configuration	21
6.5	Mission Server Configuration	21
6.6	Operation	21
7	Transferring Files over S-band/X-band Bidirectionally	22
7.1	Radio Configuration	22
7.2	Ground-station Configuration	22
7.3	Mission Server Configuration	23
7.4	Operation	23
8	Transferring Files over X-band Unidirectionally	24
8.1	DVB-S2 X-band Radio Configuration	24
8.2	GSUFTP Transmission Configuration	24
8.3	Ground-station Configuration	24
8.4	Operation	24
8.5	Splitting File Data Ahead of Down-link Opportunity	25
8.6	Clean-up	25
9	CSP over S-band	26
9.1	Overview	26
9.2	Configure link	26
9.3	SSH tunnel	26
9.4	CSP configuration	27
10	Storing SpaceWire Data	28
10.1	Payload Prerequisites	28
10.2	SpaceWire Configuration	28
10.2.1	Storage Full Protection	29
10.2.2	Persisting Configuration	29
10.3	SpaceWire Telemetry	29
10.4	Operation	30
11	References	31

List of Figures

2.1	NanoCom Link SDR unit	3
2.2	NanoCom ANT2150 antenna	4
2.3	NanoCom ANT2150 bottom-view with connectors highlighted	5
2.4	NanoCom ANT8250 with AFE8250 RF front-end	6
2.5	NanoCom ANT8250 antenna	6
3.1	NanoCom Link System Overview	12
5.1	IP network of the NanoCom Link system	17
6.1	Overview of data streaming over S-band example	20
7.1	Overview of file transfer over S-band example	22
8.1	Overview of file transfer over X-band example	24
9.1	CSP over S-band example overview	26
10.1	Overview of SpaceWire data storage example	28

List of Tables

1	Changelog	1
2.1	NanoCom Link components included in products	3
2.2	NanoCom Link transceiver slot usage and location	4
2.3	NanoCom ANT2150 connector overview	5
3.1	Data storage properties	14
5.1	IP interfaces available on NanoCom Link S, X and SX	18
5.2	IP configuration	18
7.1	Highlighted <code>rsync</code> options from the manpage [9]	23

List of Abbreviations

CAN Controller Area Network.

CCSDS Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems.

CSP Cubesat Space Protocol.

DVB-S2 Digital Video Broadcasting - Satellite - Second Generation.

ESD electrostatic discharge.

GOSH GomSpace Shell.

GSSE GomSpace Stream Encapsulation.

GSUFTP GomSpace Unidirectional File Transfer Protocol.

ICD interface control document.

IP Internet Protocol.

IPA isopropyl alcohol.

IPv4 Internet Protocol version 4.

LVDS low-voltage differential signal.

MODCOD modulation and coding.

MTU maximum transmission unit.

OBC on-board computer.

PC personal computer.

PCBA printed circuit board assembly.

QPSK quadrature phase-shift keying.

RF radio frequency.

RX receive.

SDR software-defined radio.

SGL space-ground link.

SSH Secure Shell.

TCP Transmission Control Protocol.

TCP/IP Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol.

TTY teletypewriter.

TX transmit.

UDP User Datagram Protocol.

USB universal serial bus.

ZMQ ZeroMQ.

Changelog

Version	Change
1.2	Update RS-422 interface capabilities to include CSP mode Include IPv4 over DVB-S2 in examples including bidirectional link using S-band uplink Update examples to new GSUFTP implementation running over UDP Update 'Storing SpaceWire Data' use-case with to use /data-striped partition Add section on 'Storage' in 'System Overview'
1.1	Correct parameters for S-band telemetry example
1.0	Initial revision

Table 1: Changelog

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document contains guidelines for usage of the GomSpace NanoCom Link S, X and SX radio products. This includes guidelines for getting started, configuration, and operation.

1.2 Scope

The document is applicable within the scope of using the NanoCom Link S, X and SX as satellite radio communications products. The following products are covered in this document

- NanoCom Link S for S-band communications between the space segment and ground segment using the Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS) 131.0-B-3 standard [1].
- NanoCom Link X for X-band communications from the space segment towards the ground segment using the Digital Video Broadcasting - Satellite - Second Generation (DVB-S2) standard [2].
- NanoCom Link SX for combined communications using the S- and X-band variants simultaneously.

Note that technical specifications such as performance characteristics are not included in this document as it is focused on usage. Refer to the datasheet for technical specifications [3].

1.3 Structure

The document is structured as follows:

- Section 2 provides a hands-on description of how to use the product.
- Section 3 provides a system overview.
- Section 4 describes configuration of the product.
- Section 5 describes how the Internet Protocol (IP) network on the product is configured.
- Section 6 describes a use-case for streaming payload data to/from the ground segment via S-band.
- Section 7 describes a use-case for exchanging files with bi-directional link on NanoCom Link S and SX.
- Section 8 describes a use-case for downloading files via X-band.
- Section 9 describes a use-case for CSP communication using the S-band link.
- Section 10 describes how storage of SpaceWire data link layer frames is configured and operated on the product.

1.4 Related Documents

The user manual is complemented by the NanoCom Link S, X, SX interface control documents (ICDs) [4, 5, 6] and datasheet [3].

2 Getting Started

This section describes the necessary steps for getting started with the NanoCom Link S, X and SX products.

2.1 Unpacking and Handling Precautions

The NanoCom Link products and their components are electrostatic discharge (ESD) sensitive devices. Proper precautions must be observed when handling the devices. Use an ESD mat and a wrist strap as a minimum. Wear gloves to avoid fingerprints on the anodized aluminium parts, as these are particularly difficult to rinse off. If any cleaning of the parts are required prior to flight, use ESD safe cleaning methods with a neutral, non-reactive, isopropyl alcohol (IPA) solvent.

2.2 Included Components

The NanoCom Link products consist of different components depending on the specific product. The different components for each product are listed on Table 2.1.

Component	Included in		
	Link S	Link X	Link SX
NanoCom Link software-defined radio (SDR) unit	X	X	X
NanoCom ANT2150 antenna	X		X
NanoCom ANT8250 antenna		X	X

Table 2.1: NanoCom Link components included in products

2.2.1 SDR unit

The SDR unit is shown on Figure 2.1.



Figure 2.1: NanoCom Link SDR unit

It consists of a main board where a processing module is installed alongside one or more transceiver modules. The processing module is labelled “Z7000” while the transceiver modules are labelled “TR600”. The main board can hold up to three transceiver modules in so-called “slots”. The usage of these slots is described on Table 2.2.

Transceiver Slot	Usage	Physical Location
A	S and SX products for communication with NanoCom ANT2150	Next to the processing module on the same side of the main board.
B	X and SX products for communication with NanoCom ANT8250	Directly opposite to slot A on the other side of the main board.
C	Not used.	Next to slot B on the same side of the main board.

Table 2.2: NanoCom Link transceiver slot usage and location

The SDR unit is delivered with a cable kit which includes

- Power cable
- Universal serial bus (USB) to serial cable
- Debug breakout printed circuit board assembly (PCBA) with debug cable

2.2.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products

The NanoCom ANT2150 is shown on Figure 2.2 and on Figure 2.3 with connectors highlighted.



Figure 2.2: NanoCom ANT2150 antenna

It is delivered with a cable kit which includes

- Power cable
- Controller Area Network (CAN) control cable
- Two radio frequency (RF) cables

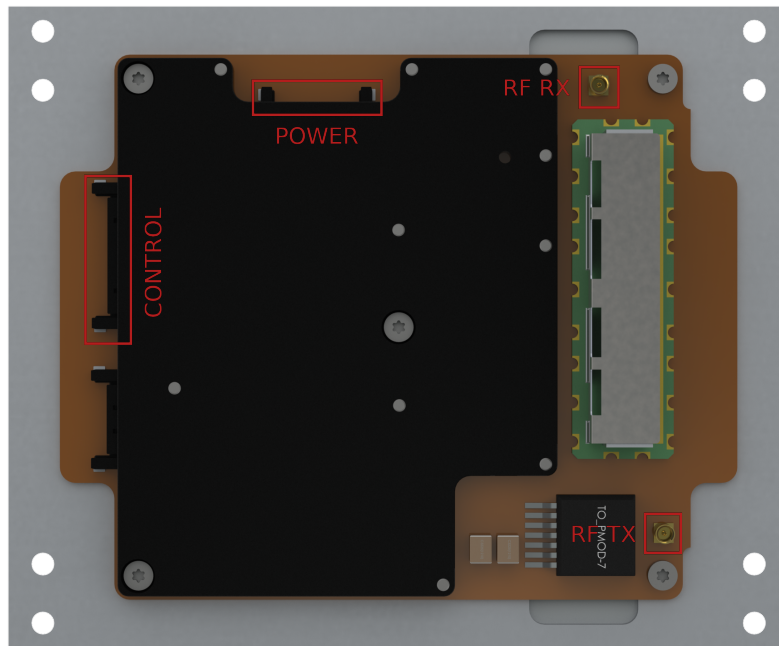


Figure 2.3: NanoCom ANT2150 bottom-view with connectors highlighted

The relevant connectors are described on Table 2.3.

Connector	Description
RF receive (RX)	Connected using one RF cable
RF transmit (TX)	Connected using one RF cable
Power	Connected using power cable
Control	Connected using CAN control cable

Table 2.3: NanoCom ANT2150 connector overview

2.2.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products

The NanoCom ANT8250 is shown on Figures 2.4 and 2.5.

These are delivered with a cable kit which includes

- Power cable
- CAN control cable
- RF cable



Figure 2.4: NanoCom ANT8250 with AFE8250 RF front-end

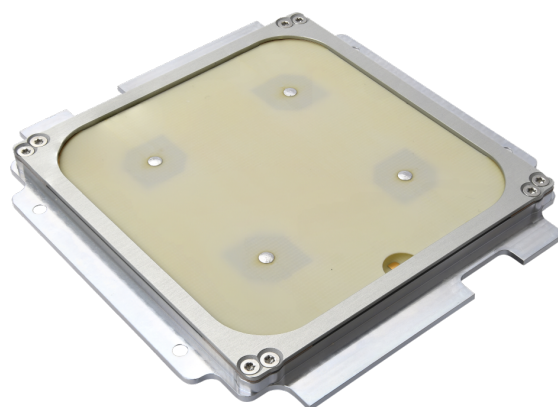


Figure 2.5: NanoCom ANT8250 antenna

2.3 Connecting the Components

The NanoCom Link products must have an RF connection and a CAN connection between the SDR unit and the RF front-end(s).

2.3.1 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products

Use the SDR transceiver module in slot A for connection between the SDR unit and the NanoCom ANT2150. Use the supplied RF cable to connect the transceiver port labelled “TX1” to the NanoCom ANT2150 J300 connector. Use the other supplied RF cable to connect the transceiver port labelled “RX1” to the NanoCom ANT2150 J102 connector. Use the supplied CAN cable to connect the transceiver connector labelled “AFE CONTROL” to the NanoCom ANT2150 J401 connector.

2.3.2 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products

Use the SDR transceiver module in slot B for connection between the SDR unit and the NanoCom ANT8250. Use the supplied RF cable to connect the transceiver port labelled “TX1” to the NanoCom AFE8250 port labelled “RF IN”. Use the supplied CAN cable to connect the transceiver connector labelled “AFE CONTROL” to the NanoCom AFE8250 connector labelled “MAIN”.

2.4 Powering the Components

2.4.1 SDR unit

The SDR unit requires a single power supply. For stand-alone testing, use the supplied power cable and a lab power supply with current limiting capabilities. Connect the power cable to the connector labelled “PWR1” on the SDR and the other end to the power supply channel. Configure the power supply channel for e.g. 12 V with 1 A current limit. Refer to the NanoCom Link S, X, SX Datasheet[3] for the supported supply voltage range.

The SDR is now ready to be powered on.

2.4.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products

The NanoCom ANT2150 requires an 8 V–18 V power supply. For stand-alone testing, use a similar setup as the SDR. That is, use the supplied power cable and a lab power supply with current limiting capabilities. Connect the power cable to the J400 connector on the NanoCom ANT2150 and the other end to the power supply channels. Configure the power supply channels for e.g. 12 V with 1 A current limit.

The NanoCom ANT2150 is now ready to be powered on.

2.4.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products

The NanoCom ANT8250 requires a 5 V and a 12 V–33 V power supply. For stand-alone testing, use a similar setup as the SDR. That is, use the supplied power cable and a lab power supply with current limiting capabilities. Connect the power cable to the connector labelled “PWR” on the NanoCom AFE8250 and the other end to the power supply channels. Configure the power supply channels for e.g. 5 V with 1 A current limit and 12 V with 2 A current limit.

The NanoCom ANT8250 is now ready to be powered on.

2.5 Communicating over Debug Serial Interface

The CAN interface is the primary interface for control and telemetry [4]. The serial interface is only used for lab debugging purposes and getting started.

Connect the SDR breakout PCBA with the SDR unit using the supplied debug cable. Use the supplied USB to serial cable to connect your personal computer (PC) to the breakout PCBA. Open the teletypewriter (TTY) device in a serial communication program, e.g., minicom or *tio* [7, 8]. Configure the serial communication program for 115 200 bit/s, 8 databits, 1 stopbit and no parity. On Listing 2.1 an example is shown using *tio* [8] from a Linux shell. Note there should be no output at this point, as the board is still powered down.

Listing 2.1: Example of SDR serial communication setup with *tio*

```
1 user@HostPC:~$ tio -b 115200 /dev/ttyUSB0
2 [tio 11:15:57] tio v1.20
3 [tio 11:15:57] Press ctrl-t q to quit
4 [tio 11:15:57] Connected
```

2.6 Bootstrapping the Components

2.6.1 SDR unit

Bootstrap the SDR by enabling the power supply channel and wait for output to appear on the serial connection. The bootstrapping process includes a u-boot console which automatically continues to a Linux startup process. When the bootstrapping process is done a Linux prompt is available on the serial interface. Note that additional time is necessary for all software components to start before the SDR is operational.

Listing 2.2 shows the output on the serial interface that appears when a Linux prompt is available.

Listing 2.2: Output on serial interface when Linux prompt is reached

```
1 GomSpace Linux 4.1.4 nanomind-z7030-nv3 ttyPS1
2
3 nanomind-z7030-nv3 login: root (automatic login)
4
5
6  _ _ _ _ _
7  / _ _ | / _ \ | \ / | _ _ _ _ _
8  | | _ | | | | \ / | / _ | ' \ / _ | / _ | / _ |
9  | | _ | | | | \ _ \ | _ | | | | | | _ |
10 \ _ _ | \ _ _ | | | | _ _ | _ _ | \ _ _ | \ _ _ |
11
12 GomSpace NanoCom SGL Image
13
14 root@nanomind-z7030-nv3:~#
```

2.6.2 NanoCom ANT2150 for S and SX products

Bootstrap the NanoCom ANT2150 by simply enabling the power supply channels associated with it.

2.6.3 NanoCom ANT8250 for X and SX products

Bootstrap the NanoCom ANT8250 by simply enabling the power supply channels associated with it.

2.7 Enabling RF Transmission

The following section uses the SDR debug serial interface for commanding the unit. In production the CAN interface should be used as described in [4].

To enable RF transmission access the Linux prompt on the SDR and run

```
gosh localhost 5005
```

This opens the GomSpace Shell (GOSH) for the space-ground link (SGL) control software. The NanoCom Link products use the GomSpace parameter system for control and telemetry. This is described in detail in [4].

2.7.1 Enabling S-band transmission for S and SX products

Access the parameter table for CCSDS configuration using the `param select GOSH` command. Set the `enable` parameter to `true` using the `param set GOSH` command. This procedure is illustrated on Listing 2.3.

Listing 2.3: Example of enabling S-band transmission over SDR debug serial interface

```
1 root@nanomind-z7030-nv3:~# gosh localhost 5005
2 connected to 127.0.0.1:5005
3 SGL # param select ccstds_base_cfg
4 SGL # param set enable true
```

The S-band transmission is now active using the default configuration. The configuration can be seen using the `param list GOSH` command as illustrated on Listing 2.4.

Listing 2.4: Example of listing S-band transmission configuration over SDR debug serial interface

```
1 SGL # param list ccstds_base_cfg
2 Table ccstds_base_cfg (1):
3   0x0000 enable BL true
4   0x0004 tx_freq FLT 2200.000000
5   0x0008 rx_freq FLT 2025.000000
6   0x000C tx_symrate FLT 2.000000
7   0x0010 rx_symrate FLT 2.000000
8   0x0014 tx_mod STR "qpsk"
9   0x001C rx_mod STR "qpsk"
10  0x0024 tx_pwr_lvl U8 0
```

A detailed list of configuration parameters and descriptions is available in [4]. To access telemetry use the `param list GOSH` command as illustrated on Listing 2.5.

Listing 2.5: Example of listing S-band transmission telemetry over SDR debug serial interface

```

1 SGL # param list ccsds_base_telem
2 Table ccsds_base_telem (4):
3   0x0000 bb_running BL true
4   0x0001 tr_running BL true
5   0x0002 afe_running BL true
6   0x0003 afe_temp_off BL false
7   0x0004 afe_temp_pa FLT 27.800001
8   0x0008 afe_temp_mcu FLT 22.700001
9   0x000C afe_uptime U32 68
10  0x0010 afe_power_in FLT -12.426064
11  0x0014 afe_steady BL true
12  0x0018 rx_gain FLT 61.000000
13  0x001C tx_gain FLT -14.250000
14  0x0020 rssi FLT -83.500000
15  0x0024 rx_lock BL false
16  0x0025 rx_sig_pres BL false
17  0x0020 rx_sig_evm FLT 15.864301
18  0x002C rx_sig_offset I32 -399

```

A detailed list of telemetry parameters and descriptions is available in [4].

2.7.2 Enabling X-band transmission for X and SX products

Access the parameter table for DVB-S2 configuration using the `param select GOSH` command. Set the `enable` parameter to `true` using the `param set GOSH` command. This procedure is illustrated on Listing 2.6.

Listing 2.6: Example of enabling X-band transmission over SDR debug serial interface

```

1 root@nanomind-z7030-nv3:~# gosh localhost 5005
2 connected to 127.0.0.1:5005
3 SGL # param select dvbs2_base_cfg
4 SGL # param set enable true

```

The X-band transmission is now active using the default configuration. The configuration can be seen using the `param list GOSH` command as illustrated on Listing 2.7.

Listing 2.7: Example of listing X-band transmission configuration over SDR debug serial interface

```

1 SGL # param list dvbs2_base_cfg
2 Table dvbs2_base_cfg (2):
3   0x0000 enable BL true
4   0x0002 modcod U16 1
5   0x0004 tx_freq FLT 8150.000000
6   0x0008 symrate FLT 50.000000
7   0x000C tx_pwr_lvl U8 0

```

A detailed list of configuration parameters and descriptions is available in [4]. To access telemetry use the `param list GOSH` command as illustrated on Listing 2.8.

Listing 2.8: Example of listing X-band transmission telemetry over SDR debug serial interface

```
1 SGL # param list dvbs2_base_telem
2 Table dvbs2_base_telem (5):
3   0x0000 mod_enabled BL true
4   0x0001 if_enabled BL true
5   0x0002 afe_enabled BL true
6   0x0004 mod_pl_sent U32 1
7   0x0008 mod_dum_sent U32 4519248
8   0x000C mod_bbf_sent U32 0
9   0x0010 mod_bbp_sent U32 1
10  0x0014 mod_bb_buf U32 0
11  0x0018 mod_bb_proc U32 4
12  0x001C mod_data_halt BL false
13  0x0020 if_tx_gain FLT -30.500000
14  0x0024 afe_running BL true
15  0x0025 afe_steady BL true
16  0x0026 afe_ctrl_st U16 3
17  0x0028 afe_bootcount U32 118
18  0x002C afe_temp_pa FLT 30.000000
19  0x0030 afe_temp_mcu FLT 29.000000
20  0x0034 afe_if_pow FLT -28.000263
21  0x0038 afe_rf_pow FLT 26.834335
```

A detailed list of telemetry parameters and descriptions is available in [4].

3 System Overview

The NanoCom Link SX product is depicted on Figure 3.1 as a general block-diagram.

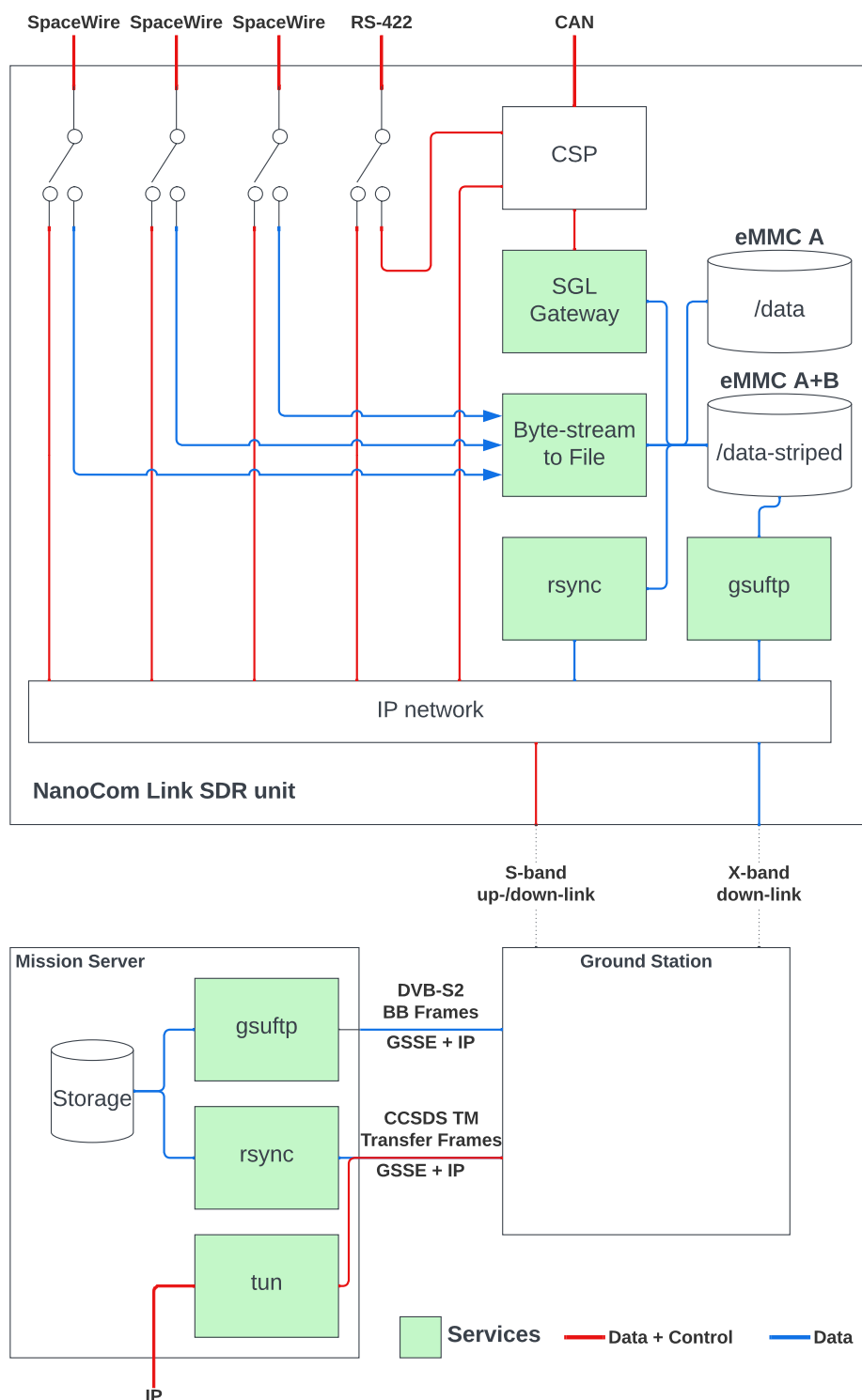


Figure 3.1: NanoCom Link System Overview

3.1 Data Plane

3.1.1 Data Exchange with Spacecraft Bus

The SpaceWire and RS-422 external interfaces are primarily used for data. The details of these interfaces are described in [5]. In summary, these interfaces support data exchange as Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP). Additionally, the SpaceWire interfaces supports data exchange as a byte-stream to file. On the SDR unit, TCP/IP is realized as a Linux IP TUN interface for ease of integration with third-party Linux tools.

3.1.2 Data Exchange via S-band or X-band with Bidirectional Communication

The interfaces mentioned in Section 3.1.1 can be used for direct, instantaneous transmission of data or, alternatively, to store data for future transmission.

When data is stored for future transmission it is put into files and stored on the SDR file system. These files can e.g. be downlinked with the Linux `rsync` application. These use-cases are described in more detail in the following sections.

Direct transmission is enabled by another IP TUN interface named `rf0`. The IP packets sent on this interface are transmitted over the S-band RF link towards ground which also exposes an IP TUN interface on the mission server. The data-plane is thus composed of multiple interfaces that can all be represented by IP TUN interfaces and interconnected using standard Linux IP routing capabilities. These use-cases are described in more detail in Section 7 and Section 6.

3.1.3 Data Exchange via X-band with Unidirectional Communication

The interfaces mentioned in Section 3.1.1 can be used to store data for future transmission. When data is stored for future transmission it is put into files and stored on the SDR file system.

These files can be downlinked with the GomSpace `gsuftp` application.

This use-case is described in more detail in Section 8.

3.2 Control Plane

The CAN and RS-422 interfaces are the primary control interfaces, although other interface may also be used. This is described in detail in [4]. In summary, the NanoCom Link products use CSP and the GomSpace parameter system. Consequently, the payloads and/or on-board computer (OBC) must support CSP to control and retrieve telemetry from a NanoCom Link product.

3.3 Storage

Two storage locations are available for data storage. The details of the storage is shown in Table 3.1.

The `/data-striped` storage has the highest performance and capacity. The drawback compared to `/data` is that the data is distributed across two separate physical devices. In case either one of the physical mediums malfunction, the `/data-striped` storage is unavailable.

Mount Point	Capacity	Physical Media	Read/Write Performance
/data	10 GB	eMMC A	low
/data-striped	115 GB	eMMC A + eMMC B	high

Table 3.1: Data storage properties

4 Configuring the Radio Parameters

It is recommended to configure and save the NanoCom Link radio parameters prior to flight. Follow the steps in this section to configure the radio using the SDR debug serial interface.

4.1 Configuring the CCSDS S-band Radio for S and SX products

The following configuration is used as an example.

- 2200 MHz TX frequency
- 2025 MHz RX frequency
- Quadrature phase-shift keying (QPSK) TX modulation
- QPSK RX modulation
- 2 MBd TX symbol-rate
- 2 MBd RX symbol-rate
- 0.5 W TX power

Access the SDR unit Linux terminal using the serial debug interface as described in Section 2. Open the GOSH for the SGL control application:

```
gosh localhost 5005
```

While in the SGL control application GOSH access the parameter table for basic CCSDS S-band radio configuration:

```
param select ccsds_base_cfg
```

Set the parameters:

```
param set tx_freq 2200
param set rx_freq 2025
param set tx_mod qpsk
param set rx_mod qpsk
param set tx_symrate 2
param set rx_symrate 2
param set tx_pwr_lvl 0
```

Save the changes:

```
param save ccsds_base_cfg
```

The changes are now stored in persistent storage. The parameters can be changed any time during the mission including on-orbit. During operation, however, the dedicated control interfaces should be used as described in [4].

4.2 Configuring the DVB-S2 X-band Radio for X and SX products

The following configuration is used as an example.

- 8250 MHz TX frequency
- 30 MBd TX symbol-rate
- 2 W TX power
- DVB-S2 modulation and coding (MODCOD) index 17

Access the SDR unit Linux terminal using the serial debug interface as described in Section 2. Open the GOSH for the SGL control application:

```
gosh localhost 5005
```

While in the SGL control application GOSH access the parameter table for basic DVB-S2 X-band radio configuration:

```
param select dvbs2_base_cfg
```

Set the parameters:

```
param set tx_freq 8250  
param set symrate 30  
param set tx_pwr_lvl 2  
param set modcod 17
```

Save the changes:

```
param save dvbs2_base_cfg
```

The changes are now stored in persistent storage. The parameters can be changed any time during the mission including on-orbit. During operation, however, the dedicated control interfaces should be used as described in [4].

5 IP Networking

The NanoCom Link S, X and SX products have multiple data interfaces that support IP based communication. This section describes how to leverage this to build an end-to-end IP network that interconnects all nodes in the space segment with the ground segment through the NanoCom Link S or SX.

Figure 5.1 shows an overview of the IP network.

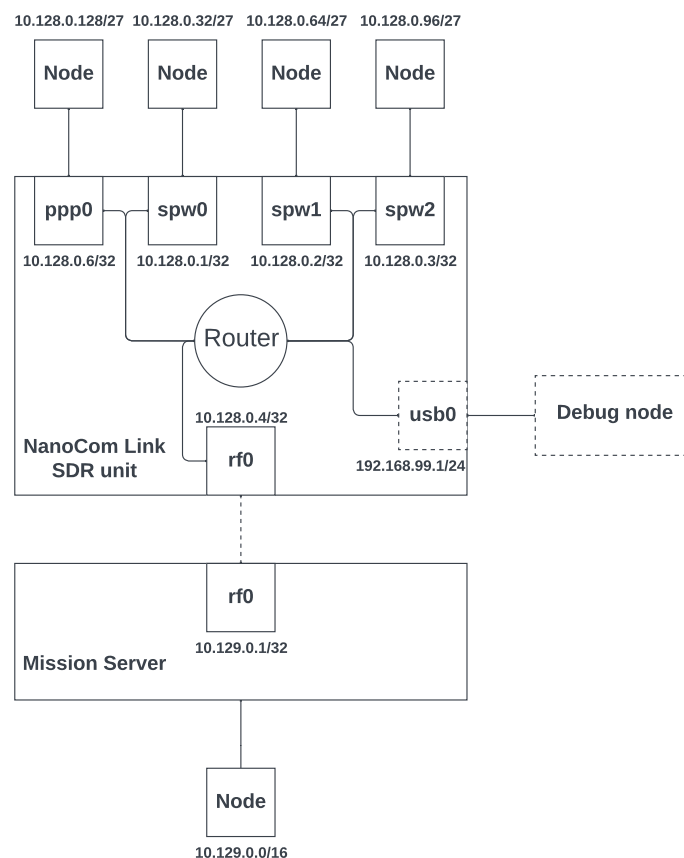


Figure 5.1: IP network of the NanoCom Link system

5.1 Interfaces with IP Capabilities

Any interface in the NanoCom Link S, X and SX products that supports IP is accessible through a Linux IP TUN network interface on the SDR unit. This means any Linux utility that uses an IP connection such as `rsync` [9, 10] and `ssh` [11, 12] can operate over any given interface seamlessly.

Table 5.1 lists the IP TUN interfaces available on the NanoCom Link S, X and SX. The SpaceWire interfaces automatically detect if there is a working connection to the other end, and set the TUN network interface up/down accordingly. The `rf0` interface can operate in both one-way and two-way links. With one-way links, the interface has no way of knowing if the link is established on the receiver in the other end. To accommodate one-way links, the `rf0` interface is always reported as up.

Interface Name	Description
spw0	Interface using SpaceWire on PL DIFF IO-1 connector
spw1	Interface using SpaceWire on PL DIFF IO-2 connector
spw2	Interface using SpaceWire on PL DIFF IO-3 connector
ppp0	Interface using RS-422 on COM1/COM2 connector
rf0	Ingress and egress IP data to/from the radio link

Table 5.1: IP interfaces available on NanoCom Link S, X and SX

5.2 Addresses and Routing in Space Segment

All interfaces are configured with a default Internet Protocol version 4 (IPv4) address and routing. The interfaces are configured to act like bridges by default thus forwarding any IPv4 packets with a destination address in their subnet. The default addresses and routes are listed on Table 5.2.

Interface Name	IP address	Routing	MTU
spw0	10.128.0.1/32	10.128.0.32/27	9000
spw1	10.128.0.2/32	10.128.0.64/27	9000
spw2	10.128.0.3/32	10.128.0.96/27	9000
ppp0	10.128.0.6/32	10.128.0.128/27	1500
rf0	10.128.0.4/32	10.129.0.0/16	9000

Table 5.2: IP configuration

Consider, as an example, the `spw0` interface which is configured with an IPv4 address of `10.128.0.1`. This interface is, by default, configured to route any IPv4 packet in the `10.128.0.32/27` subnet. This means any IPv4 packet with a destination in the range `10.128.0.32` to `10.128.0.63` is forwarded over this interface. Any IPv4 enabled payload, connected to the SpaceWire interface via the PL DIFF IO-1 connector, should be configured with an IPv4 address in the `10.128.0.32/27` network.

Note that the `rf0` interface is configured to route any IPv4 packet with a destination in the `10.129.0.0/16` subnet. This subnet is reserved for nodes in the ground-segment while the `10.128.0.0/16` subnet is reserved for nodes in space-segment.

5.3 Addresses and Routing in Ground Segment

The ground segment must run the NanoCom Link Connect software stack or a custom software application that receives the GomSpace Stream Encapsulation (GSSE) byte stream and extracts the IP packets.

NanoCom Link Connect creates a Linux IP TUN network interface called `rf0`. The `rf0` interface on the mission-server acts as a point-to-point connection with the `rf0` interface on the SDR unit. The `rf0` interface on the mission-server is configured, by default, with an IPv4 address of `10.129.0.1`. In addition, it is configured to route any IPv4 packets with a destination in the `10.128.0.0/16` subnet.

The resulting IP network allows for the mission server to reach e.g. a payload connected to the `spw0` interface on the SDR by connecting to `10.128.0.33` (assuming the payload is configured with this address). Similarly the payload can reach the mission server by connecting to `10.129.0.1`. In addition, any payload can communicate with another in the space-segment through the SDR.

Note that this section only considers the network layer for each interface. For a detailed description of the protocol stack associated with each interface see [5, 6].

6 Streaming Data over S-band

The following example describes how to configure and operate the NanoCom Link S and SX for a data streaming use-case. The example is depicted on Figure 6.1. As indicated on the figure, the example assumes that the payload is connected to the radio using SpaceWire. Note, that it is possible to achieve similar functionality using other data interface [5].

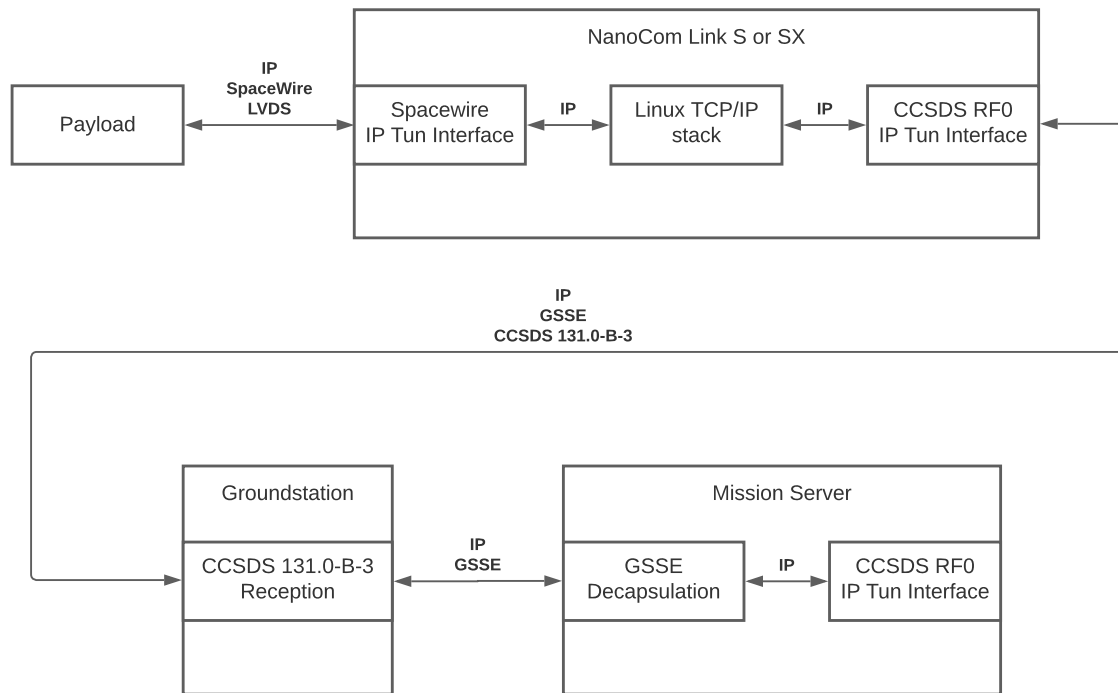


Figure 6.1: Overview of data streaming over S-band example

The example utilizes that the NanoCom Link S/SX supports an IP network layer on top of the SpaceWire data-link layer. This means the payload can send IP packets with a destination address belonging to the mission server. The Linux TCP/IP stack on the SDR unit routes the received packets to the `rf0` TUN network interface which transmits them towards ground. On ground, the packets are received and forwarded to the mission server which has a corresponding TUN network interface.

6.1 Payload Prerequisites

The payload must support low-voltage differential signal (LVDS) and SpaceWire data-link layer. In addition, it must be capable of running an IP network layer on top of the SpaceWire data-link layer. Finally, it must be configured with an IPv4 address that matches the subnets described in Section 5. Refer to [5] for details regarding the SpaceWire interface protocol stack.

6.2 Configuration

On the NanoCom Link SDR unit the SpaceWire network layer is managed by `systemd`. The configuration files are located in `/etc/systemd/network/`. The files are named according to their interface, i.e.,

`spw0.network`, `spw1.network`, and `spw2.network`. By default the files contain IPv4 addresses and routing setups as described in Section 5. It is recommended to use the defaults but the configuration can be changed to fit mission requirements.

6.3 CCSDS S-band Radio Configuration

The NanoCom Link S/SX must be configured according to the allocated radio channel, bandwidth, etc. as described in Section 4.1. In addition, the `rf0` tun interface must be configured with an IP address. Similar to SpaceWire, the configuration files are located in `/etc/systemd/network/` where the `rf0` config file is named `rf0.network`. The default address and routing can be used which is recommended.

6.4 Ground-station Configuration

The ground-station must be configured to match the chosen radio configuration. That is, frequency, symbol-rate, modulation, etc. Apart from this, the configuration depends entirely on the ground-station chosen for the specific mission. See the NanoCom Link S, X, SX RF ICD for details [6]. Note that the ground-station must be configured to forward received CCSDS 131.0-B-3 frames to the mission server as illustrated on Figure 6.1.

6.5 Mission Server Configuration

The mission server must run the NanoCom Link Connect software stack or a custom software application that receives the GSSE byte stream and extracts the IP packets. This application must also connect to the ground-station to transmit IP packets. The NanoCom Link Connect software stack creates an IP TUN interface named `rf0` which acts as access point to the CCSDS S-band uplink and the satellite. If default addresses and routing are used in the space segment this interface requires no configuration. Otherwise, configure the `rf0` interface IP address and ensure IP traffic is routed correctly.

6.6 Operation

During a link opportunity power on the NanoCom Link SDR unit and NanoCom ANT2150. Set the `enable` parameter to `true` in the CCSDS config table as described in Section 2.7.1. Observe the CCSDS S-band radio telemetry to ensure RX signal lock has been required. When the RX signal lock has been acquired the link is ready for user data transfer. On the payload, send data to the mission server IP address configured on the `rf0` interface. On the ground, send data to the payload IP address.

7 Transferring Files over S-band/X-band Bidirectionally

The following example describes how to configure and operate the NanoCom Link S and SX for a bi-directional file transfer use-case. The example is depicted on Figure 7.1.

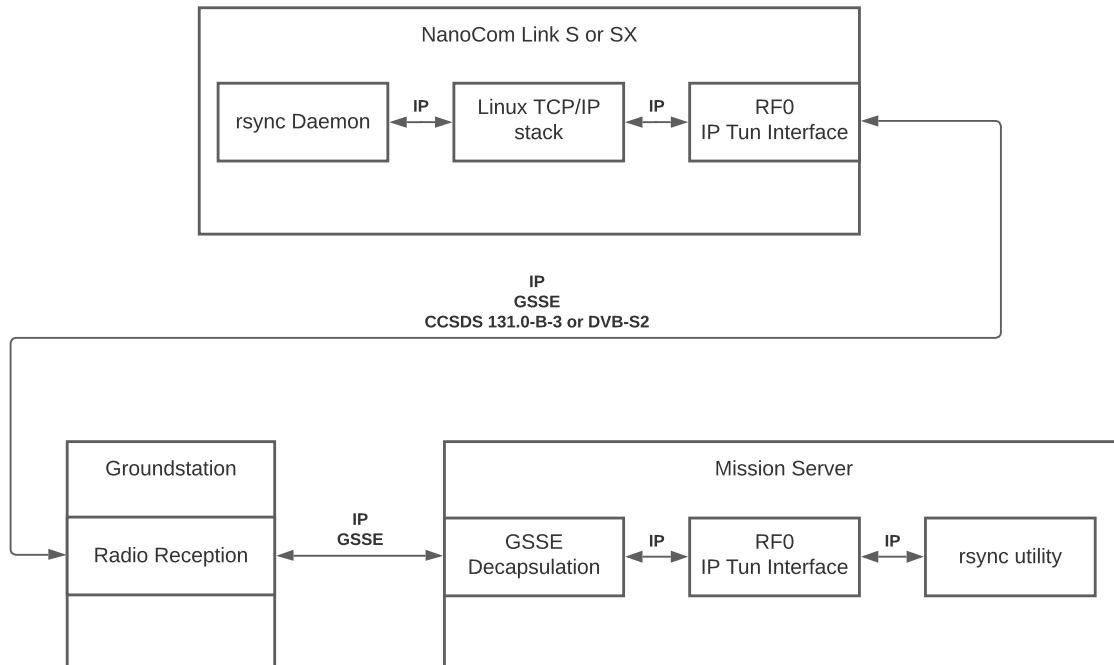


Figure 7.1: Overview of file transfer over S-band example

Note that files are transferred between the storage available on the NanoCom Link S/SX and ground.

7.1 Radio Configuration

The NanoCom Link S-band radio must be configured according to the allocated radio channel, bandwidth, etc. as described in Section 4.1. If available, the X-band radio must be configured according to the allocated radio channel, MODCOD, bandwidth, etc. as described in Section 4.2.

In addition, the `rf0` tun interface must be configured with an IP address. Similar to SpaceWire, the configuration files are located in `/etc/systemd/network/` where the `rf0` config file is named `rf0.network`. The default address and routing can be used which is recommended.

7.2 Ground-station Configuration

The ground-station must be configured to match the chosen radio configuration(s). That is, frequency, symbol-rate, modulation, etc. Apart from this, the configuration depends entirely on the ground-station chosen for the specific mission. See the NanoCom Link S, X, SX RF ICD for details [6]. Note that the ground-station must be configured to forward received CCSDS 131.0-B-3 frames to the mission server as illustrated on Figure 6.1.

7.3 Mission Server Configuration

The mission server must run the NanoCom Link Connect software stack or a custom software application that receives the GSSE byte stream and extracts the IP packets. This application must also connect to the ground-station to transmit IP packets. The NanoCom Link Connect software stack creates an IP TUN interface named `rf0` which acts as access point to the CCSDS S-band uplink and the satellite. If default addresses and routing are used in the space segment this interface requires no configuration. Otherwise, configure the `rf0` interface IP address and ensure IP traffic is routed correctly.

7.4 Operation

During a link opportunity turn on the NanoCom Link SDR unit and NanoCom ANT2150 (and NanoCom ANT8250 if available). Set the `enable` parameter to `true` in the CCSDS and DVB-S2 config tables as described in Sections 2.7.1 and 2.7.2. Observe the CCSDS S-band radio telemetry to ensure RX signal lock has been required. When the RX signal lock has been acquired the link is ready for file transfer.

File transfer can be done using the `rsync` application [9]. As an example, consider Listing 7.1 where a local folder is uplinked to the NanoCom Link SDR unit using `rsync`. In this example, the SDR unit has an IPv4 address of `10.128.0.4` on the `rf0` IP TUN interface. The `rsync` command features multiple useful options for this use-case which are summarized on Table 7.1.

Listing 7.1: Example of file transfer using `rsync`

```
1 user@hostname:~# rsync -a some_data_dir/ root@10.128.0.4:/data/some_data_dir/
```

Option	Description
<code>--append</code>	This causes <code>rsync</code> to update a file by appending data onto the end of the file, which presumes that the data that already exists on the receiving side is identical with the start of the file on the sending side.
<code>--append-verify</code>	This works just like the <code>--append</code> option, but the existing data on the receiving side is included in the full-file checksum verification step, which will cause a file to be resent if the final verification step fails.
<code>--remove-source-files</code>	This tells <code>rsync</code> to remove from the sending side the files (meaning non-directories) that are a part of the transfer and have been successfully duplicated on the receiving side.

Table 7.1: Highlighted `rsync` options from the manpage [9]

By default, the S-band downlink is used. If an X-band downlink is available this may be used instead of the S-band downlink. Set the `dl_select` parameter in the TUN config table to `highspeed` to use the X-band downlink.

8 Transferring Files over X-band Unidirectionally

Transferring from the space craft to the ground segment via X-band is a uni-directional operation when no S-band uplink is available. To reliably transmit files, the utility GomSpace Unidirectional File Transfer Protocol (GSUFTP) is available. This section focuses on an example use-case for GSUFTP. The use-case is illustrated on Figure 8.1.

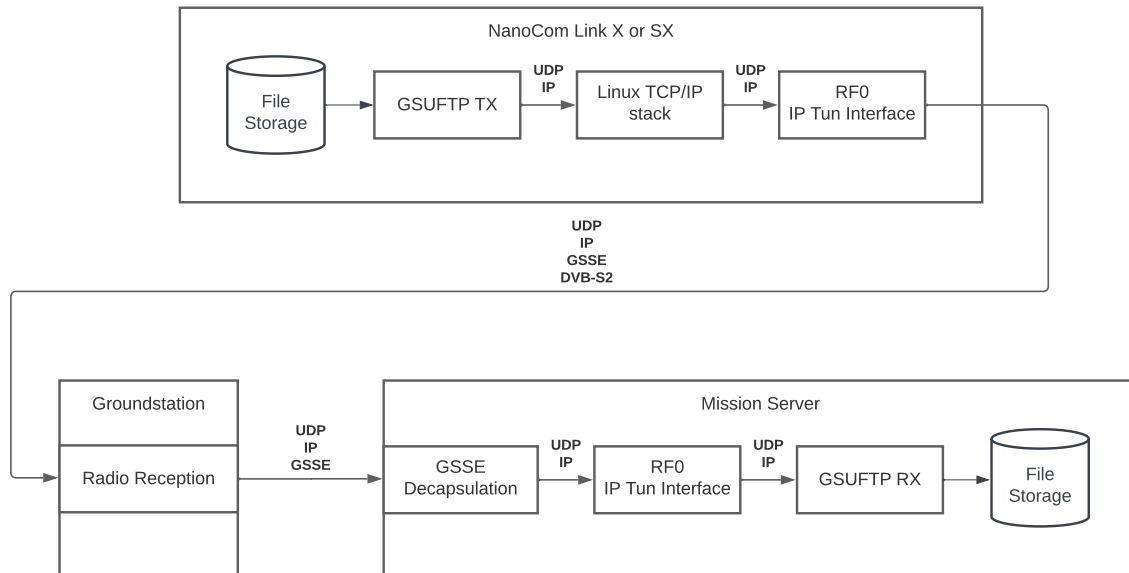


Figure 8.1: Overview of file transfer over X-band example

8.1 DVB-S2 X-band Radio Configuration

The NanoCom Link X/SX must be configured according to the allocated radio channel, MODCOD, bandwidth, etc. as described in Section 4.2.

8.2 GSUFTP Transmission Configuration

Similar to the radio configuration, the GSUFTP configuration is performed in a parameter table. The transmission must be configured with a destination IP address matching the IP address of the mission server. In addition, it is possible to configure which directories to transmit files from.

8.3 Ground-station Configuration

The ground-station must be configured to match the chosen radio configuration. That is, frequency, symbol-rate, etc. Apart from this, the configuration depends entirely on the ground-station chosen for the specific mission. See the NanoCom Link S, X, SX RF ICD for details [6]. Note that the ground-station must be configured to forward received DVB-S2 base-band frames to the mission server as illustrated on Figure 8.1.

8.4 Operation

During a link opportunity turn on the NanoCom Link SDR unit and NanoCom ANT8250. Set the `enable` parameter to `true` in the DVB-S2 config table as described in Section 2.7.2. Set the `enable` parameter to

true in the GSUFTP config table. Files are now being transmitted from the directories specified during configuration.

8.5 Splitting File Data Ahead of Down-link Opportunity

GSUFTP verifies integrity of down-linked data on a file-by-file basis. This means that any lost data requires a re-transmission of the entire file. If the payload data to be down-linked is large, it may be a benefit to first split the data in several files. GSUFTP has utilities to split, and later combine, large files to/from smaller files.

Using GSUFTP split requires executing commands on the Linux shell of the NanoCom Link SDR unit. In testing and lab conditions, this can be done through the terminal available on the serial debug interface.

In operation, this can be done by using the Nanomind HP Gateway *cmd run* CSP command, refer to NanoMind HP - Gateway Interface[13]. Alternatively, commands can be executed via Secure Shell (SSH) access on an IP capable interface.

To split all files in a directory, run the following command:

```
$ gsuftp-split /data-stripped/download/* /data-stripped/download-split
```

This splits all files in /data-stripped/download/ into smaller files, copying them to the output directory /data-stripped/download-split/.

8.6 Clean-up

The files down-linked from the NanoCom Link SDR unit are not automatically removed from the source. Once the integrity of the files received on ground is verified, the source files on the spacecraft can be deleted.

9 CSP over S-band

NanoCom Link supports CSP over S-band. This chapter describes an example of CSP communication using the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

9.1 Overview

The components involved this example use-case are shown in Figure 9.1.

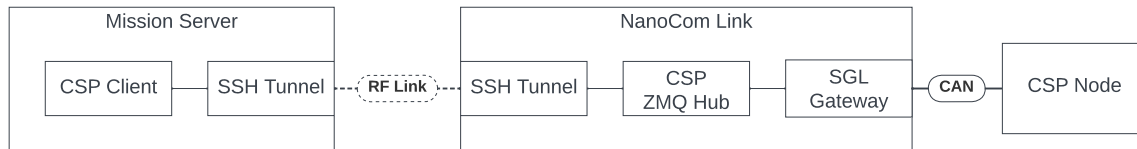


Figure 9.1: CSP over S-band example overview

A CSP client on a mission server connects to a CSP ZeroMQ (ZMQ) hub on the NanoCom Link S-band radio. The connection uses a set of SSH tunnels, which provides an encrypted connection on the RF link.

The NanoCom Link S-band radio is configured with a route for the mission server CSP client through the ZMQ hub. These steps enable CSP communication between the mission server CSP client and the SGL Gateway on the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

Furthermore, a CSP client is connected via CAN to the SGL Gateway, and a route to/from the mission server CSP client via the SGL Gateway is configured.

This provides a full end-to-end connectivity of the mission server CSP client, and a CSP node connected via CAN to the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

9.2 Configure link

The S-band link between the mission server and the NanoCom Link S-band radio must be established.

This is done by configuring the parameter `enable` in table `ccsds_base_cfg` to `True`. Monitor parameter `rx_lock` in table `ccsds_base_telem` for a value of `True` to indicate that the link is established.

On the mission server, an IPv4 tunnel using the link must be established.

9.3 SSH tunnel

Once the link with an IPv4 tunnel is established, a set of SSH tunnels is configured to provide encrypted access to the ZMQ hub on the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

The ZMQ hub uses Transmission Control Protocol (TCP) ports 6000 and 7000 for CSP communication.

The SSH tunnels are configured as follows from the mission server Linux shell:

```
1 $ ssh -MfN -S <tmp-socket-file-1> -l root -L 6000:localhost:6000 -o ExitOnForwardFailure=yes  
  -o UserKnownHostsFile=/dev/null -o StrictHostKeyChecking=no 10.128.0.4  
2 $ ssh -MfN -S <tmp-socket-file-2> -l root -L 7000:localhost:7000 -o ExitOnForwardFailure=yes  
  -o UserKnownHostsFile=/dev/null -o StrictHostKeyChecking=no 10.128.0.4
```

The tunnels can be exited by running the following command from the mission server Linux shell:

```
$ ssh -S <tmp-socket-file-1> -O exit -l root 10.128.0.4  
$ ssh -S <tmp-socket-file-2> -O exit -l root 10.128.0.4
```

9.4 CSP configuration

With the SSH tunnels running, the CSP client on the mission server can connect to the ZMQ hub on the NanoCom Link S-band radio, through localhost.

```
$ csp-client --csp-address=24 --csp-zmq=localhost
```

From the CSP client, routing can be configured to allow communication with the SGL Gateway on the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

```
# cmp route_set 13 1000 24 255 ZMQHUB
```

The CSP client should now be able to ping the SGL Gateway on the NanoCom Link S-band radio.

```
# ping 13
```

To reach the CSP node connected to the NanoCom Link S-band radio via CAN, a route must be configured on the node to route to ground via the SGL Gateway. The CSP node on CAN is configured with CSP address 1.

This is configured from the CSP client on the mission server.

First we configure a route from the mission server to the CAN node:

```
# cmp route_set 24 1000 1 13 ZMQHUB
```

Now we configure the return route

```
# cmp route_set 1 1000 24 13 CAN
```

Now the mission server CSP client should be able to ping the CSP node on CAN:

```
# ping 1
```

10 Storing SpaceWire Data

The following example describes how to store data from the SpaceWire data link layer directly to the NanoCom Link S/X/SX. The example is depicted on Figure 10.1.

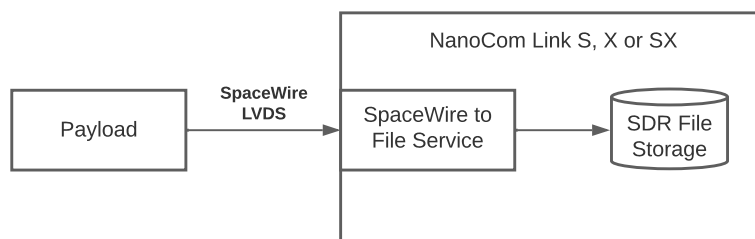


Figure 10.1: Overview of SpaceWire data storage example

The payload data in the data link layer frames is stored as files on the SDR unit filesystem with configurable name, size, and location. The frames are never split between files but the boundaries between frames are not preserved by the NanoCom Link S/X/SX. That is, the payload must provide the necessary means for recovering frames boundaries if these are needed for decoding. This can be done by adding additional protocol layers on the top of the SpaceWire data link layer.

10.1 Payload Prerequisites

The payload must be compatible with the SpaceWire standard [14] for the physical and data link layers. There are no requirements to the format of the data link layer frames except the frame size which must not exceed 65 535 B. For more details regarding the SpaceWire interface protocol stack refer to [5].

10.2 SpaceWire Configuration

The NanoCom Link S/X/SX SpaceWire interface must be configured to operate in *file* mode. To configure the mode, access the SpaceWire parameter table and change the *mode* parameter. In the following, this is illustrated using the debug serial interface as shown in Section 2.

On the SDR unit, open the GOSH for the SGL control application.

```
gosh localhost 5005
```

Access the SpaceWire configuration parameter table

```
param select 3
```

Set the mode for the SpaceWire interface to *file*. In the following SpaceWire interface 0 is assumed. Use *s1_mode* or *s2_mode* instead of *s0_mode* depending on the target SpaceWire interface.

```
param set s0_mode file
```

The SpaceWire interface is now operating in file mode. See Listing 10.1 for an example of how to configure file names, sizes, and output directory. This example configures the SpaceWire data link layer frames to

be stored in `/data-striped/spw-data/`. The files are named as `spw0-data-<date>-<counter>.bin` where `<date>` is e.g. 24-12-2022 for the 24th of December, 2022. The `<counter>` is a 9-digit zero-padded number running from 000000001 and upwards. This number is preserved across all configurations and multiple runs. If no configuration values are provided the values in this example are used by default.

Listing 10.1: Example of SpaceWire data file configuration

```
param set s0_file_pre spw0-data-  
param set s0_file_size 5  
param set s0_file_ext bin  
param set s0_file_out /data-striped/spw-data/
```

When SpaceWire data is received, it is stored in a temporary file until that file reaches the configured size of e.g. 5 MB. At this point the temporary file is renamed according to the configuration and naming scheme. In case the SpaceWire interface is idle for a period of time the temporary file is renamed regardless of its size to avoid data being stuck in the temporary file. The period of time to wait while idle is also configurable. Refer to [4] for details regarding all configuration parameters.

10.2.1 Storage Full Protection

The default configuration protects the file storage from becoming full. If the usage of the file storage goes above a limit, configured by the `sX_file_du_t` parameters, data is automatically discarded.

Only files matching any of the configured data file configurations (see Listing 10.1) are considered for removal.

Whether newest or oldest data files are removed is configurable through the `sX_file_rm_n` parameters.

The default configuration is shown in Listing 10.2.

Listing 10.2: Default configuration for disk storage full protection

```
param set s0_file_du_t 0.9  
param set s0_file_rm_n false
```

10.2.2 Persisting Configuration

To save the configuration to persistent storage run the following.

```
param save 3
```

This ensure the SpaceWire interface is configured correctly when the SDR unit is powered on.

10.3 SpaceWire Telemetry

The SpaceWire interfaces offer various telemetry parameters. To see these, access parameter table 9 in the SGL control application. In the following, this is illustrated using the debug serial interface as shown in Section 2.

On the SDR unit, open the GOSH for the SGL control application.

```
gosh localhost 5005
```

Access the SpaceWire telemetry parameter table

```
param select 9
```

To see the current mode for e.g. SpaceWire interface 0 run

```
param get s0_mode
```

To see if SpaceWire interface 0 has an active connection run

```
param get s0_up
```

For a complete list of all telemetry parameters in the table run

```
param list
```

Refer to [4] for details regarding all telemetry parameters.

10.4 Operation

When the SpaceWire file storage is needed, turn on the NanoCom Link SDR unit. When the SDR unit is booted it is ready to accept SpaceWire data link layer frames. Turn on the payload and keep the SDR unit running while the payload is producing SpaceWire data. Verify by observing the telemetry parameters as described in Section 10.3.

When the payload operation is finished the SDR may be turned off. The data files can be downlinked following the procedures described in e.g. Section 7 or Section 8.

11 References

- [1] **Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS)**
Blue Book 131.0-B-3
TM Synchronization and Channel Coding
Sept. 2017, Issue 3
Available at <https://public.ccsds.org/Pubs/131x0b3e1.pdf>
Cited on pages 2, 21, 22.
- [2] **European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)**
European Standard EN 302 307-1
Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB); Second generation framing structure, channel coding and modulation systems for Broadcasting, Interactive Services, News Gathering and other broadband satellite applications; Part 1: DVB-S2
July 2014, V1.4.1
Available at <https://tinyurl.com/y5vuwykh>
Cited on page 2.
- [3] **GomSpace**
DS 1046020
NanoCom Link S, X, SX Datasheet
Cited on pages 2, 7
- [4] **GomSpace**
ICD 1045207
NanoCom Link S, X, SX Control Interface
Cited on pages 2, 8–11, 13, 15, 16, 29, 30
- [5] **GomSpace**
ICD 1045208
NanoCom Link S, X, SX Data Interface
Cited on pages 2, 13, 19, 20, 28
- [6] **GomSpace**
ICD 1045318
NanoCom Link S, X, SX RF Interface
Cited on pages 2, 19, 21, 22, 24
- [7] **minicom**
Software tool
Available at <https://github.com/Distrotech/minicom>
Cited on page 8
- [8] **tio**
Software tool
Available at <https://github.com/tio/tio>
Cited on page 8
- [9] **rsync(1)**
Unix manual page
Available at <https://man7.org/linux/man-pages/man1/rsync.1.html>
Cited on pages 17, 23
- [10] **rsync**
Software tool
Available at <https://rsync.samba.org/>
Cited on page 17

- [11] **ssh(1)**
Unix manual page
Available at <https://man7.org/linux/man-pages/man1/ssh.1.html>
Cited on page 17
- [12] **OpenSSH**
Software tool
Available at <https://www.openssh.com/>
Cited on page 17
- [13] **GomSpace**
Interface Control Document 1046534
NanoMind HP - Gateway Interface
Cited on page 25
- [14] **European Cooperation for Space Standardization (ECSS)**
Standard ECSS-E-ST-50-12C
SpaceWire - Links, nodes, routers and networks
May 2019, Revision 1
Available at <https://tinyurl.com/yx8k4pzt>
Cited on page 28.