

## BINARY FORMAT DESCRIPTION

### Introduction

This section describes an optional binary format for the numerical portion under [Network Data] and [Noise Data]. A binary format is useful for large files since it can reduce memory storage requirements to about 20 to 33 percent of the original ASCII data file.

The binary format is designated by the [Binary] keyword and is supported in [Version] 2.1 and above Touchstone files. The rules and limitations are discussed under the keyword description.

~~Conversions to and from the binary format are expected to be supported by a utility that to preserve all existing ASCII content except for the numerical portions under either or both the [Network Data] and [Noise Data] keywords. s the ASCII portion of the file above the [Network Data] keyword. A~~ The conversion utility would not process comment characters and text to the end of the line and ignore blank lines. Such content would not be restored if converted back to ASCII format.

~~The conversion utility to a binary format is expected to use the same arguments (designated as T1, T2, and T3) associated with the [Binary] keyword to direct the conversion.~~

### [Binary]

Rules for Version 1.0 Files:

The [Binary] keyword is not permitted in Version 1.0 files.

Rules for Version 2.0 and Greater Files:

The [Binary] keyword is not permitted in Version 2.0 files. The [Binary] keyword is optional for Version 2.1 and greater files. The [Binary] keyword is the first keyword that would follow either the [Network Data] or the [Noise Data] keywords (or both keywords) whenever the numerical entries that follow are encoded in a binary format.

~~However, the [Noise Data] keyword and the [Binary] keyword shall not be used in the same file.~~

~~Each Touchstone Version 2.1 file may contain one and only one [Binary] keyword.~~

The [Binary] keyword indicates that network data is presented in binary format, for purposes of file size compression and faster file parsing.

~~The [Binary] keyword shall be the first keyword after the [Network Data] keyword and before any data (i.e., between the [Network Data] keyword and the network data itself, to inform parsers that the network data is in binary format).~~

[Binary] shall be followed by ~~a single three-character arguments separated by whitespace.~~ For explanatory purposes in this document only, ~~the characters of the arguments~~ are designated T1, T2 and T3 below. The three ~~characters comprising the arguments~~ shall ~~not~~ be separated by whitespace, ~~or line-termination sequences.~~

The first ~~argument character~~, T1, indicates the numerical precision of the frequency information.

The second ~~argument character~~, T2, indicates numerical precision of the data.

~~The third argument, T3 indicates the byte order.~~

Both T1 and T2 ~~designate precision: tokens shall use the same upper case characters to designate precision:~~

~~32-Bit: also known as single precision floating point F: single precision (floating point)~~

~~64-Bit: also known as double precision D: double precision~~

The ~~third token~~, T3, indicates ~~designates byte order as~~ byte order using the following upper case characters:

~~B: Big-Endian big-endian: (most significant byte first)~~

~~L: Little-Endian little-endian: (least significant byte first)~~

#### Example #:

[Binary] ~~64-Bit 32-Bit Little-Endian~~ ~~DFB~~

The example above indicates double-precision frequency and floating point data in ~~little~~big-endian order.

The [Binary] keyword arguments shall be followed by a line-termination sequence. Immediately following the line-termination sequence shall be a single byte with value 0 (e.g., binary 00000000) to indicate that the information that follows will be in binary format.

No other keywords or comments are permitted after line-termination sequence following the [Binary] keyword's arguments.

~~The [Noise Data] keyword shall be prohibited in any file containing the [Binary] keyword.~~

~~The file is still terminated by the [End] keyword. shall be prohibited in any file containing the [Binary] keyword. The use of [Binary] with network data implies that only binary data, and not ASCII information, shall be present between the line-termination sequence after the [Binary] arguments and the end of the file.~~

#### Example #:

```
[Version] 2.1
# MHZ S RI R 50
[Number of Ports] 4
[Number of Frequencies] 1
! FREQ S11 S12 S13 S14
! S21 S22 S23 S24
! S31 S32 S33 S34
```

```
! S41 S42 S43 S44
```

```
!
```

```
[Network Data] ! numerical data in (hex) binary format
```

```
[Binary] 64-Bit 32-Bit Little-Endian
```

```
00 00 00 80 3f 65 8f ed 08 e9 21 95 3f 1a a5 4b ff 92 54 8e bf 85 c3 1c 4e aa
87 ee 3f 2b 58 99 df 1f a5 c8 bf 1b 37 c5 7b bf e5 62 bf 5e 74 42 80 bd d6 7e
3f 78 25 7d e5 37 08 77 bf 27 ca 48 37 6e a3 54 bf 3c 67 0b 08 ad 87 ee 3f d7
81 18 8d 21 a5 c8 bf f1 47 51 67 ee 21 95 3f 32 16 13 bc 9d 54 8e bf b2 31 47
40 99 07 77 bf 9d d5 02 7b 4c a4 54 bf e5 71 67 12 34 e7 62 bf 90 4a a7 31 fe
d6 7e 3f 0c 4f f9 21 80 e5 62 bf 31 8c 26 dd b7 d6 7e 3f 58 c0 cf 7b 0d 08 77
bf 23 be 0e fa a4 a3 54 bf d5 53 b3 20 f7 21 95 3f d4 c8 19 50 90 54 8e bf bb
a8 cc 83 aa 87 ee 3f d4 04 9b 84 1c a5 c8 bf ae 96 94 eb 08 08 77 bf df 58 01
d2 bf a3 54 bf cc 6b 8a 9f 7d e7 62 bf 8a 4a 97 bc 09 d7 7e 3f 72 4c bb 3d ad
87 ee 3f 01 ed 58 b6 20 a5 c8 bf 9b 5f c5 90 39 22 95 3f 43 81 2d 65 cf 54 8e
bf
```

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```
[End]
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```
DFB
```

```
HBö D\ÜG,½²: _?_ fO¿eÖ ←
à ← rN\fyG>¼: _?_ fO¿6öI\|Fö,¼K rN\½^G>¼& ← ç ← ²ö ← öB ← öqN\¿ZG>ý D\ _ ½í: _?í, O¿w
N\; [G>f& ← Eç ← ö: _?_ fO¿PöI\|P<,¼Ä ← B_ !¼MIÈ\;×/ > ð^¿×öç<¾^ ← kî
¼ÈÜS:M×/ > ð^¿Äv!¼ ÖÈ\ _ î ¼öfS:Nöç ← äöç<Ü‡ ← ...î ¼wöS:Ü !¼çfÈ\¼×/ > ð^¿î î
¼ä: s:Wöç<È ← ð×/ > Äð^¿_w!¼ ×È\c_²B {üZ\¼áB>îS<¼_ m¿æö
← <-& ;tÈ\¼
```

{insert binary frequency and data in hex format here, for example}

Except for the [Binary] keyword, its arguments and the The hex data shown above in the example above the example corresponds to the following ASCII corresponds to the following ASCII text/network information:

```
[Version] 2.1
# MHZ S RI R 50
[Number of Ports] 4
[Number of Frequencies] 1
! FREQ S11 S12 S13 S14
! S21 S22 S23 S24
! S31 S32 S33 S34
! S41 S42 S43 S44
!
[Network Data]
1.000000e+001
2.063717e-002 -1.480975e-002 9.540607e-001 -1.925392e-001
-2.306818e-003 7.529011e-003 -5.623072e-003 -1.259668e-003
9.540620e-001 -1.925394e-001 2.063725e-002 -1.480983e-002
-5.622481e-003 -1.259875e-003 -2.307512e-003 7.529252e-003
-2.306700e-003 7.528990e-003 -5.622914e-003 -1.259719e-003
2.063738e-002 -1.480973e-002 9.540608e-001 -1.925388e-001
-5.622897e-003 -1.259744e-003 -2.307649e-003 7.529295e-003
9.540621e-001 -1.925393e-001 2.063837e-002 -1.481020e-002
```

[End]

