FDSN WG-II Data Exchange, meeting Japan (January 2001)

Present: Tim Ahern, Rhett Butler, Pascal Dayre, Bernard Dost, Petr Firbas, Winfried Hanka, Florian Hasslinger, Seiji Tsuboi

Format issues:

A proposal from Kay Shedlock (USGS) was received, but not yet distributed, concerning the use of seismic station-channel naming conventions. In short the proposal addresses the problem of a centralised scheme of station codes that is failing, caused by a large increase in station deployments. The suggestion is to decentralize the naming and using a network code in addition. This network code is already in use in SEED, but should be extended. Since the matter is quite complicated, a decision was made to distribute the document and solicit views over the next few weeks. This discussion should go over e_mail and will be sent to Shedlock. It was made clear that we opt for a solution that would effect the current version of SEED as little as possible.

Manfred Baer asked the WG to expand the channel naming conventions. He proposes to use new nomenclature for 40 Hz, 60Hz and 80 Hz data streams, since having a data stream of e.g. 20 Hz and 40 Hz would give the user no distinction. Ahern noted that these problems are covered by the location identifier.

A problem was reported in the definition of the byte order in (Mini)SEED blockette 1000. No specific solution was found and will require further action.

A thorough discussion was initiated on the correct usage of time tolerance. It was requested to come with a new proposal for changes.

A problem was reported specifying the altitude (height) of sensor in SEED (-700.0 is not possible)

IRIS DMC has a converter from CD1.0-> SEED, Tim Ahern will ask about the status to include this program in the software library.

In rdseed, the subroutine to output CSS format is old. Firbas has an improved version. A description of the format is through Tom Bache

The Java version of rdseed is nearly ready and uses the FISSURES Java classes.

AutoDRM issues:

The ISC proposes to extend the autoDRM format for parametric data exchange. Contact Ray Willeman on the proposed changes.

NetDC:

NetDC was tested last year and is routinely used now. Issues are:

ftp data transfer might be problematic due to firewall restrictions. People are encouraged to use the http data transmission. A request was issued to

improve the user friendliness of netDC by issuing documentation and an online help facility.

It was realized that a connection between autoDRM and NetDC was missing at the moment. At Orfeus this issue will be taken up. There was also a requirement for a GUI for netDC requests and especially the response. Is XML an option to realize this?

Is there a possibility for a private netDC installation?

Tim noted that netDC will also be installed in Japan and China in april 2001. A connection to the NINJA program is also envisaged.

Wilber:

Wilber has been updated and a new release will be distributed early 2001.

Seiscomp:

The program is an alternative for real time data exchange using an antelope ORB or other "live" data programs. The code has been developed at GFZ. Problems with real-time programs in general are:

How do you know that you get all the data?

At IRIS DMC a synchronisation format has been developed and programs have been developed to monitor (GOAT (for data gaps) and COMBINE). These programs can be downloaded.

FDSN CD-ROMs:

In an email to the chairman of the WG, Stuart Sipkin mentioned that the NEIS/USGS considered to stop the production of event CD-ROMs. The reason being that the data is available on-line and that the costs to produce the volumes (in manpower) are large. It was mentioned that this on-line availability is nice in the US, but not everywhere (e.g. India). Also, the production could be shifted to DVD-media and be much more efficient.

Since the NEIC acts as the FDSN event oriented data archive, its role within the FDSN may change by this decision. It was thought to be important to write a letter to the NEIC and to ask for a policy on this issue.