



24 February 2021 (report covers data release for 1-31 Dec)

|                |                                       |  |      |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|--|------|
| Report Version | 1                                     | L2 ground processing software version: | 1.15 |
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Data Summary

MAG was on for the whole period 1-31 December.

On the 27th of December, Solar Orbiter had the first flyby with Venus.

**Spacecraft noise** was observed particularly in IBS data for several periods (there was significant noise for a total of 75 hours during December). This noise is very clear in IBS, the source has not been identified. We can see evidence for it being there in OBS as well, and have not got algorithms to clean this from the data. The magnetic field data have been converted to NaNs when the noise in the data was particularly high. The full period of missing data is listed in the appendix of this report. If you have particular need for any data during these periods, please contact the MAG team and we see if the data maybe suitable for release for certain applications.

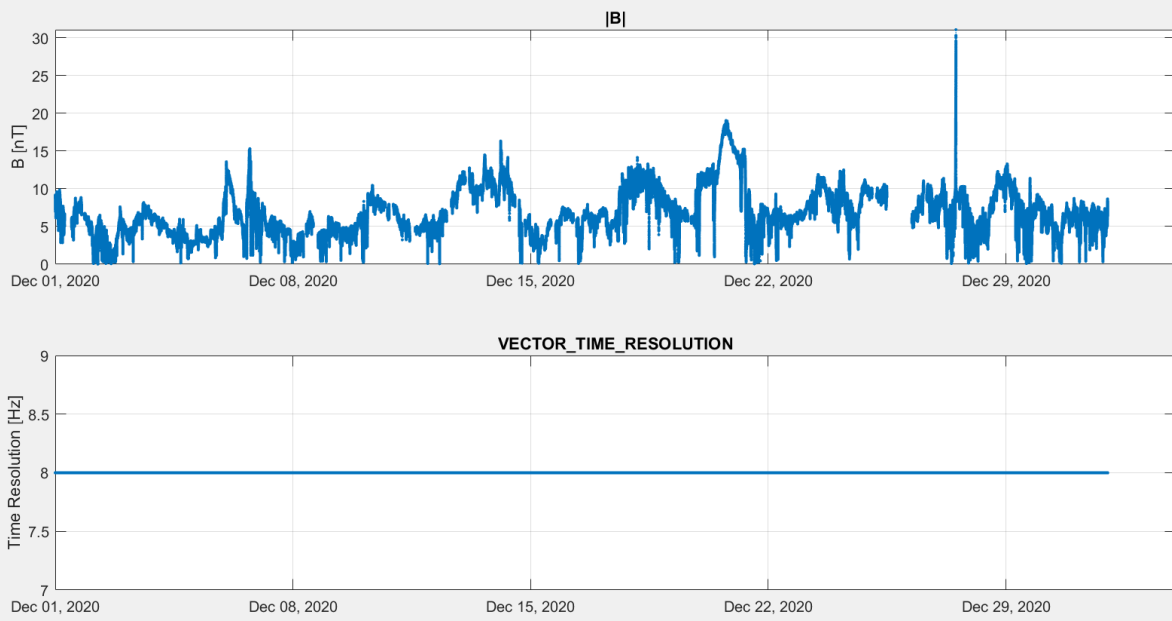
On **21 December**, there was a solar array current event which is not yet fully understood, but which caused a large step change in offset at the inboard sensor (~2nT in Y and Z axes) and a smaller change in the outboard sensor. More events were seen in January. MAG will continue to investigate.

**Higher frequency (2-15Hz) interference** from the MAG heater is observable in burst mode data throughout December: please, see the last section of this report for further details.

Before and during the flyby there were events such as the solar arrays and high gain antenna movements, which generated **offset changes** in the inboard and outboard sensors.

The spacecraft started December at 0.87AU and ended December at 0.70AU.

## Normal Mode



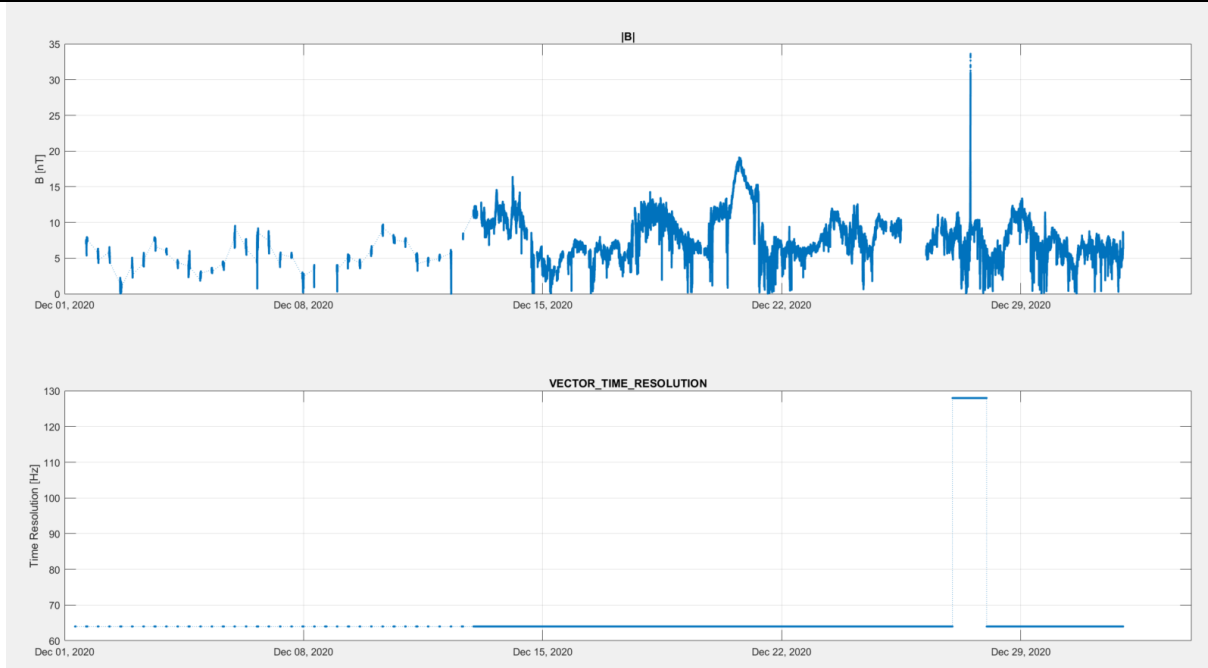
For whole month, MAG was on with 8Hz cadence normal mode data returned, for exceptions see below.

|                            |          |                                |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| Operations                 | 1-31 Dec | Cruise phase throughout period |
| Operational Events of Note | 27 Dec   | Venus flyby                    |

**Data Gaps greater than one minute:**

NaNs periods have been introduced because the data was affected by high SC interference. The total amount of NaNs in December is 75 hours. Please, see Appendix A to visualise the complete list of the NaNs.

## Burst Mode



Coverage continuous. Data at 64 Hz and 128 Hz cadence.

|          | From  | To                 | Coverage        |
|----------|-------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Coverage | 1/12  | 12/12              | 2 hours 64 Hz   |
|          | 13/12 | 31/12 except 27/12 | 24 hours 64Hz   |
|          | 27/12 | 27/12              | 24 hours 128 Hz |

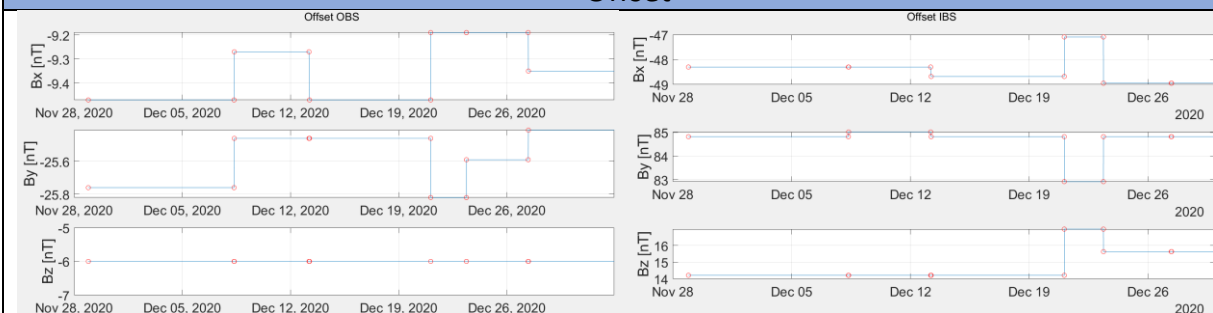
## Quality bitmask



### Quality bit mask events

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| SC events which disturb the field | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Thruster firings</li> <li>2. Solar array lubrications (solar array is moved 15 degrees, then returned to original position)</li> <li>3. Solar array movements (solar array angle is changed, and then remains at new angle due to sun-SC distance thermal constraints)</li> <li>4. High gain antenna movements</li> </ol> |
| SC related issues                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solar array current event at 01:39 on 21/12/2020</li> <li>- Solar arrays rotation from 30 to 56 degrees at 08:56 on 23/12/2020</li> <li>- High gain antenna movement on 27/12/2020 08:57-09:17</li> <li>- Solar arrays rotation from 56 to 60 degrees at 3:24 on 31/12/2020</li> </ul>                                     |

## Offset



### 1-31 Dec:

Both IBS and OBS offsets have been modified by the solar arrays movement and the high gain antenna movements. Two changes unrelated to any known SC events have been detected.

These offsets have been quantified and removed from the L2 data.

| Offset | Date                       | OBSX  | OBSY   | OBSZ | IBSX   | IBSY  | IBSZ  |  |
|--------|----------------------------|-------|--------|------|--------|-------|-------|--|
| 85     | 28/11/2020<br>22:15:01.000 | -9.47 | -25.76 | -6   | -48.3  | 84.82 | 14.21 | Post SA lubrication                              |
| 85     | 08/12/2020<br>08:25:00.000 | -9.47 | -25.76 | -6   | -48.3  | 84.82 | 14.21 | Offset constant to here                          |
| 86     | 08/12/2020<br>08:45:00.000 | -9.27 | -25.46 | -6   | -48.3  | 85.02 | 14.21 | OBS and IBS offset change – cause unknown        |
| 86     | 13/12/2020<br>04:45:00.000 | -9.27 | -25.46 | -6   | -48.3  | 85.02 | 14.21 | Offset constant to here                          |
| 87     | 13/12/2020<br>05:30:00.000 | -9.47 | -25.46 | -6   | -48.68 | 84.82 | 14.21 | OBS and IBS offset change – cause unknown        |
| 87     | 21/12/2020<br>01:39:23.000 | -9.47 | -25.46 | -6   | -48.68 | 84.82 | 14.21 | Offset constant to here                          |
| 82     | 21/12/2020<br>01:39:23.700 | -9.19 | -25.82 | -6   | -47.09 | 82.92 | 16.98 | Post Solar arrays current event                  |
| 82     | 23/12/2020<br>09:01:00.000 | -9.19 | -25.82 | -6   | -47.09 | 82.92 | 16.98 | Offset constant to here                          |
| 83     | 23/12/2020<br>09:05:00.000 | -9.19 | -25.59 | -6   | -48.95 | 84.82 | 15.63 | Post Solar arrays movement from 30 to 56 degrees |
| 83     | 27/12/2020<br>08:57:00.000 | -9.19 | -25.59 | -6   | -48.95 | 84.82 | 15.63 | Offset constant to here                          |
| 84     | 27/12/2020<br>09:17:00.000 | -9.35 | -25.41 | -6   | -48.95 | 84.82 | 15.63 | Post HGA movement                                |
| 84     | 20/02/2021<br>09:14:00.000 | -9.35 | -25.41 | -6   | -48.95 | 84.82 | 15.63 | Final Offset                                     |

## MAG Heater 3-15Hz interference

An interference signal is generated by the MAG heater. This is routinely modelled, and removed from the time series. However, during December, there was higher frequency noise (usually around 10Hz but at times in the range from 3 to 15Hz) associated with the times when the heater is operational. This is not cleaned from the burst mode data using the current technique. It has been filtered out of the NM data by the instrument low pass filters.

This interference is present throughout December: it always starts when the MAG heater is switched on and it stops when it is switched off. The heater is on for one minute, thus the observable signal lasts exactly one minute. The frequency characterising the signal is not fixed and such high variability has not been explained yet. The components of the field mostly affected by this signal is  $B_z$  (URF).

The flag called "MAGHEATERONFLAG" highlights the times at which the MAG heater was on, so it can be used to identify the periods in which the interference caused by the heater can be present.

The following spectrograms show the periodic signal as lighter vertical features emerging from the blue background. The duration of each single feature is one minute.

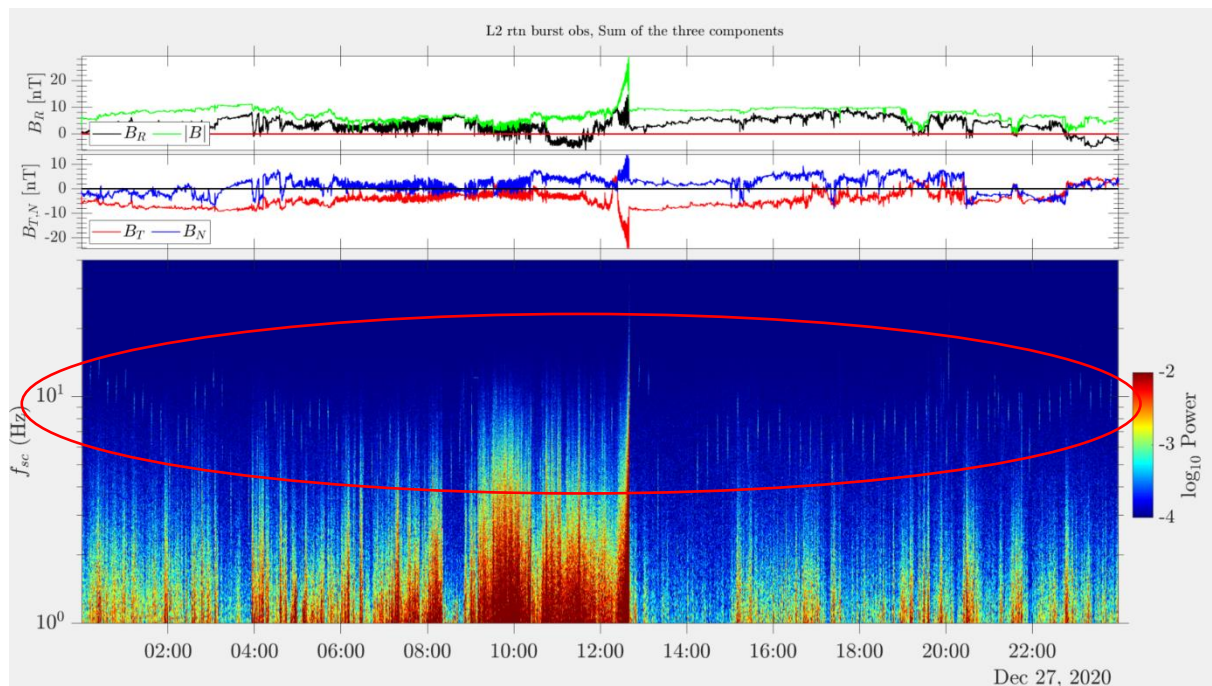


Figure 1: Spectrogram of OBS burst mode data (27th Dec 2020)

This signal is clearly correlated with the MAG heater, whose activations are represented in Figure 2 by red vertical lines. It is an artificial signal.

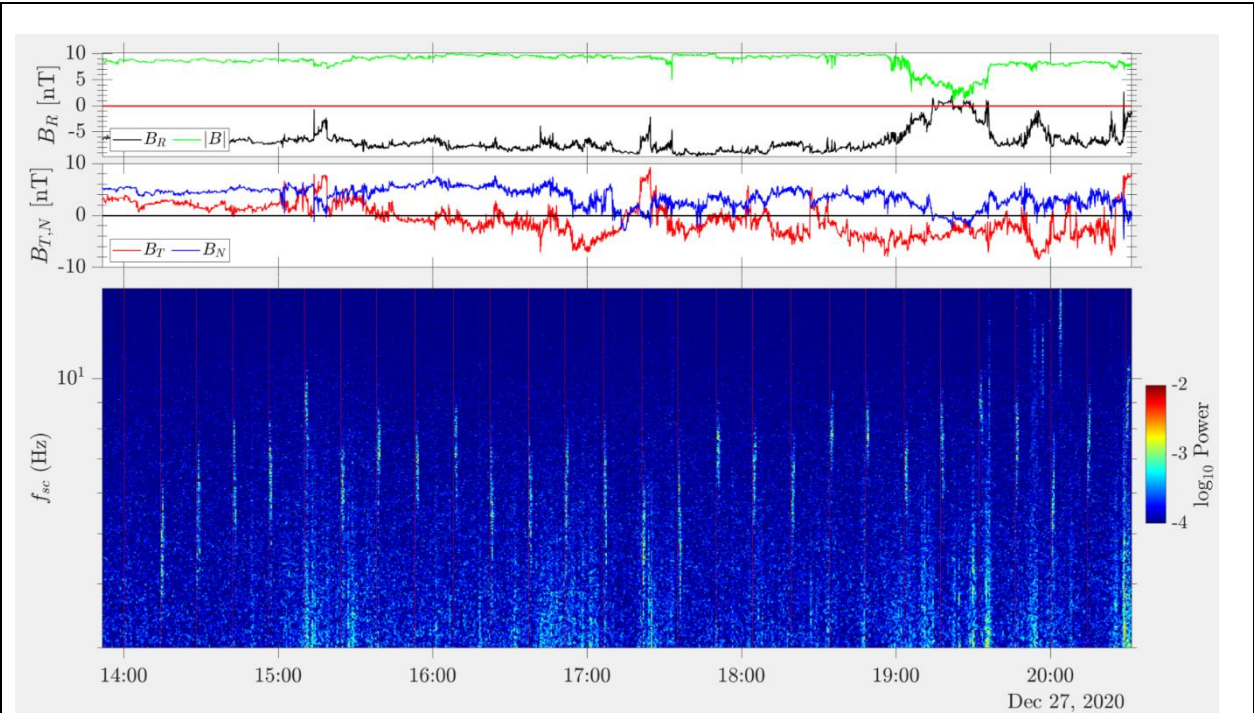


Figure 2: Spectrogram of OBS burst mode data (27th Dec 2020: from ~14:00 to ~20:30). The red vertical lines show the exact time at which the MAG heater was switched on.

Figure 3 shows the PSD of a period when the heater was on: Bz is the component of the field which is affected the most by the MAG heater interference.

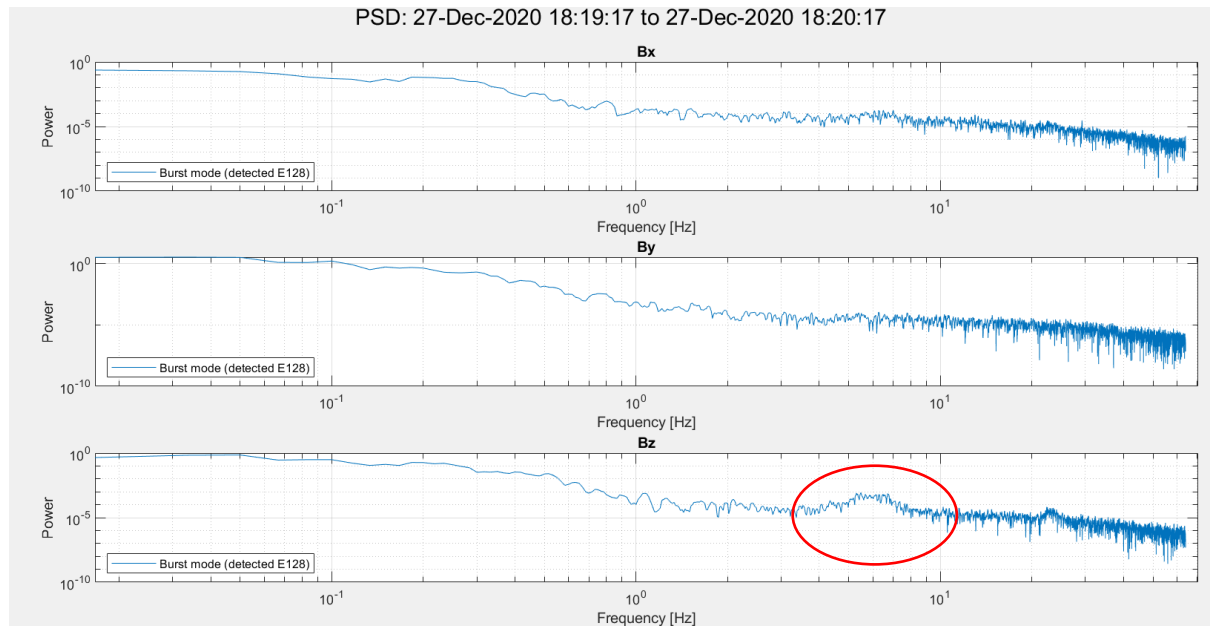


Figure 3: Power Spectral Density starting when the heater was switched on and ending when it was switched off. It represents OBS Bx By Bz in Sensor Reference Frame (URF). The PSD of the 3<sup>rd</sup> component shows a bump corresponding to the signal in the spectrogram.

## Appendix

### Appendix A: December NaNs periods

This table shows the NaNs periods which have been introduced in the data due to SC interference.

| GapType | GapStart              | GapEnd                | GapDuration |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Nan     | 20201201T06:40:00.108 | 20201201T11:29:59.890 | 04:49:59    |
| Nan     | 20201201T18:40:00.070 | 20201201T20:39:59.981 | 01:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201208T07:30:00.016 | 20201208T09:29:59.926 | 01:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201208T14:30:00.073 | 20201208T17:44:59.924 | 03:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201209T04:45:00.049 | 20201209T05:29:59.889 | 00:44:59    |
| Nan     | 20201209T08:40:00.121 | 20201209T09:14:59.968 | 00:34:59    |
| Nan     | 20201209T12:00:00.094 | 20201209T12:59:59.923 | 00:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201210T12:15:00.117 | 20201210T13:14:59.946 | 00:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201210T17:30:00.003 | 20201210T18:49:59.943 | 01:19:59    |
| Nan     | 20201210T20:00:00.015 | 20201210T22:59:59.877 | 02:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201211T10:45:00.094 | 20201211T14:29:59.937 | 03:44:59    |
| Nan     | 20201212T12:45:00.056 | 20201212T15:59:59.908 | 03:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201212T17:30:00.091 | 20201212T18:59:59.899 | 01:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201213T02:00:00.083 | 20201213T04:44:59.958 | 02:44:59    |
| Nan     | 20201214T13:00:00.018 | 20201214T15:59:59.884 | 02:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201214T18:00:00.045 | 20201214T19:59:59.955 | 01:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201215T08:30:00.020 | 20201215T09:44:59.964 | 01:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201215T11:10:00.025 | 20201215T11:39:59.878 | 00:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201215T14:30:00.001 | 20201215T17:44:59.979 | 03:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201216T06:15:00.046 | 20201216T08:29:59.944 | 02:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201216T13:00:00.120 | 20201216T13:44:59.961 | 00:44:59    |
| Nan     | 20201216T14:30:00.053 | 20201216T14:59:59.905 | 00:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201217T10:00:00.058 | 20201217T11:29:59.992 | 01:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201217T15:30:00.064 | 20201217T16:44:59.882 | 01:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201217T20:20:00.098 | 20201217T21:09:59.936 | 00:49:59    |
| Nan     | 20201217T21:45:00.035 | 20201217T22:14:59.889 | 00:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201219T10:30:00.028 | 20201219T11:29:59.984 | 00:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201219T12:00:00.087 | 20201219T12:39:59.932 | 00:39:59    |
| Nan     | 20201219T15:15:00.068 | 20201219T17:29:59.968 | 02:14:59    |
| Nan     | 20201225T01:30:00.097 | 20201225T04:29:59.962 | 02:59:59    |
| Nan     | 20201225T12:00:00.000 | 20201226T05:29:59.963 | 17:29:59    |
| Nan     | 20201226T14:00:00.081 | 20201226T15:59:59.991 | 01:59:59    |