

# Surface Water and Ocean Topography (SWOT) Project

## SWOT Product Description

Long Name: Level 2 KaRIn high rate lake single pass  
vector product

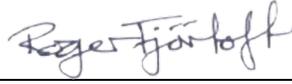
Short Name: L2\_HR\_LakeSP

### Revision A

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## CHANGE LOG

VERSION	DATE	SECTIONS CHANGED	REASON FOR CHANGE
Preliminary	2017-04-26	All	Preliminary version
Initial Release	2019-09-20	All	Initial Release
Initial Release V2	2020-03-23	All	Updates following SME review
Revision A	2022-09-30	All	Product divided into 3 shapefiles

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## List of TBC Items

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## List of TBD Items

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Product Description Document is to describe the Level 2 Ka-band Radar Interferometer (KaRIn) high rate (HR) lake single pass (SP) vector data product from the Surface Water Ocean Topography (SWOT) mission. This data product is also referenced by the short name L2\_HR\_LakeSP.

## 1.2 Document Organization

Section 2 provides a general description of the product, including its purpose and latency.

Section 3 provides the structure of the product, including granule definition, file organization, spatial resolution, temporal and spatial organization of the content, file size, and overall data volume.

Section 4 provides qualitative descriptions of the the information provided in the product.

Section 5 provides a detailed identification of the individual fields within the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product.

Section 6 provides references.

Appendix A provides a list of the acronyms used in this document.

Appendix B provides a description of the format of the product metadata.

## 1.3 Document Conventions

When the specific names of data variables and groups of the data product are given in the body text of this document, they are represented in *italicized text*.

## **2 Product Description**

### **2.1 Purpose**

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product provides lake data from each continent-pass of the high-rate (HR) data stream of the SWOT KaRIn instrument. These data are generally produced for inland and coastal hydrology surfaces, as controlled by the reloadable KaRIn HR mask.

Rivers in the Prior River Database (PRD) [1] are included in the Level 2 KaRIn High Rate River Single Pass Vector Product (L2\_HR\_RiverSP) [2]. As discussed further in Section 3.2, the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product specifically provides data for lakes identified in the Prior Lake Database (PLD) [3], and for detected features that have not been identified as a lake in the PLD nor as a river in the PRD.

Note that lakes connected to a river topology in the PRD will be included in both L2\_HR\_LakeSP and L2\_HR\_RiverSP products.

### **2.2 Latency**

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product is generated with a latency of at most 45 days from data collection. The latency allows for consolidation of instrument calibration and the required auxiliary or ancillary data that are needed to generate this product. Different versions of the product may be generated at different latencies and/or through reprocessing with refined input data, such as an updated version of the PLD.

## 3 Product Structure

### 3.1 Granule Definition

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product is provided in full-swath pass granules (i.e., including both left and right half swaths) covering individual continents, as described in [4]. These continent boundaries are consistent with those of the associated Level 2 KaRIn High Rate River Single Pass Vector Product (L2\_HR\_RiverSP) [2]. The terms “left” and “right” are defined as if standing on the Earth surface at the spacecraft nadir point facing in the direction of the spacecraft velocity vector. The L2\_HR\_LakeSP granule covers a swath that is approximately 128 km wide in the cross-track direction, although SWOT performance requirements are only applicable from 10–60 km from nadir on each side; observations may be missing, degraded, and/or flagged over the central 20 km of the swath. A “pass” is a half revolution of the Earth by the satellite from pole to pole (south to north latitudes for ascending passes, and north to south latitudes for descending passes).

### 3.2 File Organization

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product is distributed in the Esri Geographical Information System (GIS) shapefile format [5]. Each granule of the product consists of three shapefiles:

- an observation-oriented shapefile of lakes identified in the PLD
- a PLD-oriented shapefile of lakes identified in the PLD
- a shapefile of unassigned features (i.e., not identified in PLD nor PRD)

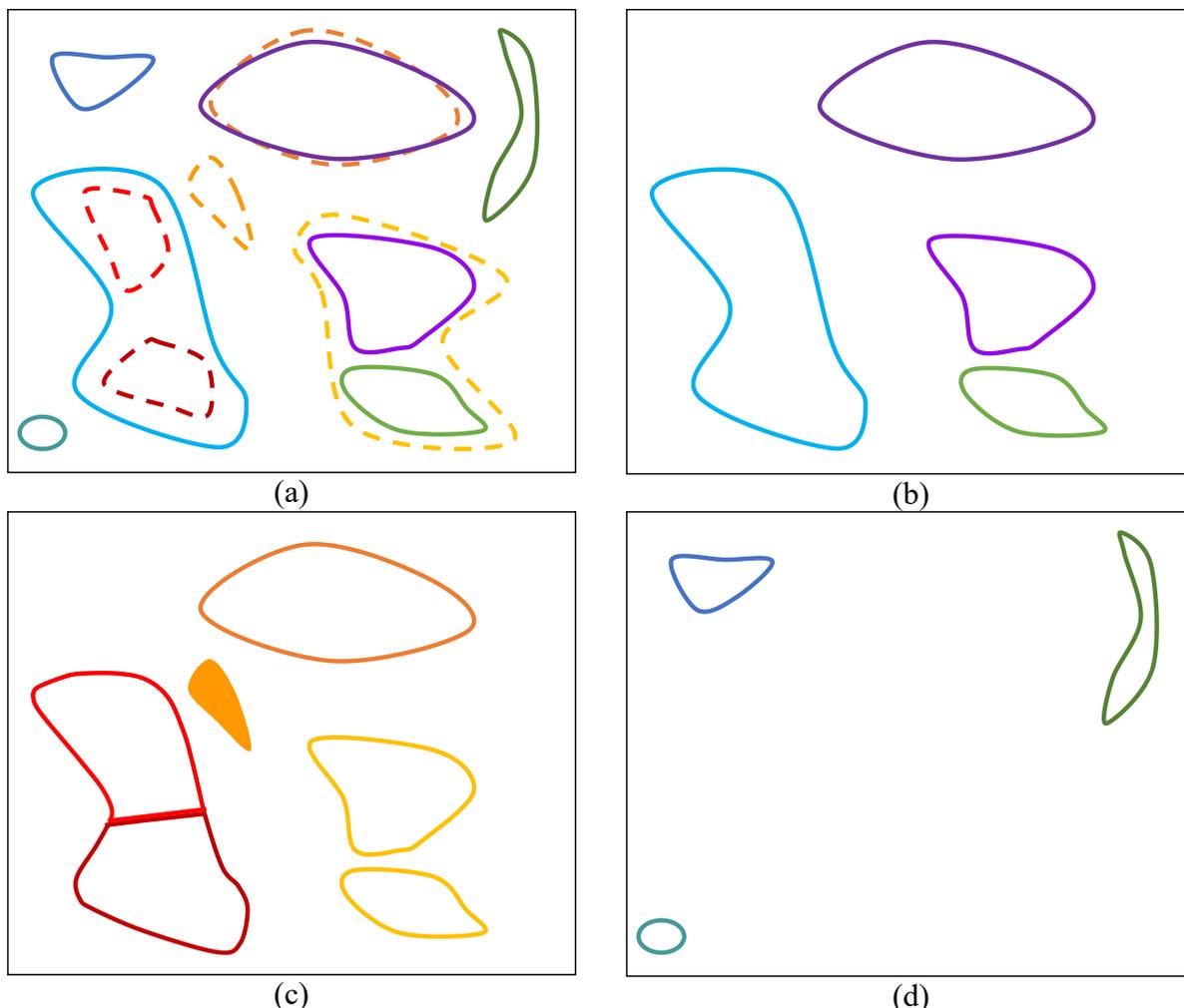
The observation-oriented L2\_HR\_LakeSP lake shapefile contains one record for each observed lake (identified in the PLD) greater than 1 ha, that is covered by the granule. Note that one observed lake may correspond to several PLD lakes.

The PLD-oriented L2\_HR\_LakeSP lake shapefile likewise contains lakes greater than 1 ha, but with one record per PLD lake. Each record can therefore consist of (partial) polygons of several observed lakes.

The PLD L2\_HR\_LakeSP unassigned features shapefile is observation-oriented and includes records for detected water bodies that have neither been identified as a lake in the PLD, nor as a river in the PRD. As illustrated in Figure 1, the observation- and PLD-oriented lake shapefiles are redundant to a large extent, and provided to accommodate different user needs. The observed lakes may be:

- connected lakes, i.e. lakes that have either an inflow or an outflow or both in the SWOT river network, as defined in the PRD (referenced both in the PLD and the PRD).
- disconnected lakes, i.e. lakes that are not connected to the SWOT river network (referenced in the PLD only).

The unassigned features may be lakes that are not present in the PLD, parts of rivers that are not in the PRD, wetlands, or bright land (false detection due to topographic layover, urban areas, roads...).



**Figure 1. Illustration of how the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product is organized in three shapefiles. (a) All observed features (solid polygons) and PLD lakes (dashed polygons) in an area. Different colors indicate different observation identifiers or PLD identifiers. (b) Polygons of the observation-oriented lake shapefile. (c) Polygons of the PLD-oriented lake shapefile (where the unobserved PLD lake is an empty shape). (d) Polygons of the observation-oriented unassigned features shapefile.**

Each shapefile consists of a set of five files with filename extensions as defined in [5]. A description of these files is provided in Table 1, below.

**Table 1. Description of the files representing the L2\_HR\_LakeSP shapefiles.**

File	Name	Description
1	Main shapefile (.shp)	Provides coordinates (polygons shape) delineating boundaries of observed water bodies and the boundaries of any island within them
2	Index file (.shx)	Stores the index of each polygon in the .shp file
3	Attributes file (.dbf)	Provides attributes for each polygon in the .shp file
4	Projection file (.prj)	Provides map projection and coordinate reference description
5	Metadata file (.shp.xml)	Provides metadata for the product

Each file in the shapefile set has the same filename prefix. The .shp file contains the basic geometry of the detected water bodies, computed from SWOT observations. The .dbf file contains the SWOT observations of water surface elevation (WSE), area, and other attributes along with information from the PLD as described in Section 4 (except for the shapefile for unassigned features which does not contain PLD information). The .prj file contains a map projection description, using a well-known text (WKT) representation of coordinate reference systems (CRS). The .shp.xml file, which is not defined by the Esri specification [4], carries metadata applicable across lake shapefiles (e.g., SWOT pass number), and per-attribute metadata (e.g., units for each attribute). The format of the .shp.xml file is described in Appendix B.

Note that the use of the term “attributes” in this document follows the shapefile nomenclature in referring to the variables associated with each feature in the .shp file. The term should not be confused with attributes as typically used in the context of NetCDF files. This document uses the term “attributes” in reference to the contents of the .dbf file and uses the term “metadata” in reference to characteristics of each attribute of the entire shapefile. Therefore, as an example, in the context of this document, the SWOT-observed WSE would be an attribute of a given lake, and the metadata of the WSE attribute would indicate that the value is given in meters as the unit of measure.

Note that the names of attributes in shapefiles can be no more than 10 characters, which explains the abbreviated or truncated names of many lake attributes. Owing to this restriction, the naming conventions of attributes in the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product sometimes differ from those of similar variables in other NetCDF-based SWOT data products.

### 3.3 File Naming Convention

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product adopts the following file naming convention:

*SWOT\_L2\_HR\_LakeSP\_<FileIdentifier>\_<CycleID>\_<PassID>\_<ContinentID>\_<RangeBeginningDateTime>\_<RangeEndingDateTime>\_<CRID>\_<ProductCounter>.<extension>*

The *<FileIdentifier>* above indicates whether it is the observation-oriented lake shapefile (Obs), the PLD-oriented lake shapefile (Prior), or the shapefile for unassigned features (Unassigned).

The two-letter *<ContinentID>* above is described in Table 3.

The *<CRID>* is the composite release identifier. It contains the version code of the data system used to generate the product.

The *<extension>* above indicates which of the five parts of the shapefile it is (.shp, .shx, .dbf, .prj, .shp.xml), per Section 3.2.

Example:

SWOT\_L2\_HR\_LakeSP\_Obs\_001\_037\_NA\_20210612T072103\_20210612T075103\_PGA2\_03.shp

SWOT\_L2\_HR\_LakeSP\_Prior\_001\_037\_NA\_20210612T072103\_20210612T075103\_PGA2\_03.shp

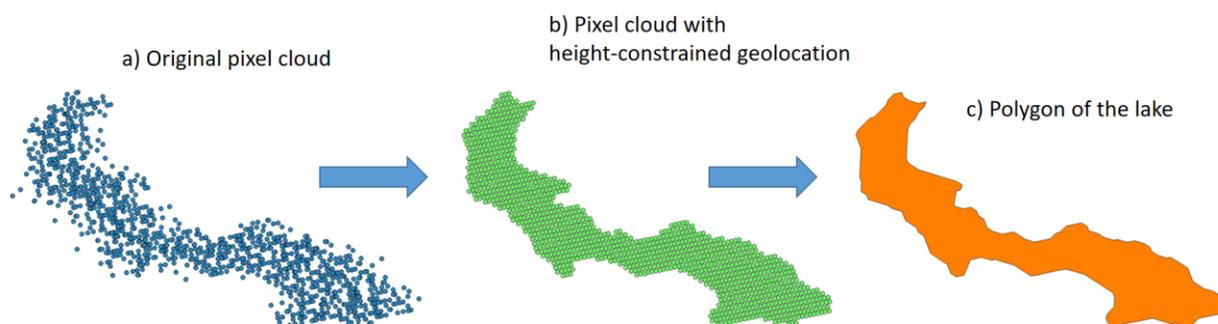
SWOT\_L2\_HR\_LakeSP\_Unassigned\_001\_037\_NA\_20210612T072103\_20210612T075103\_PGA2\_03.shp

### 3.4 Spatial Sampling and Resolution

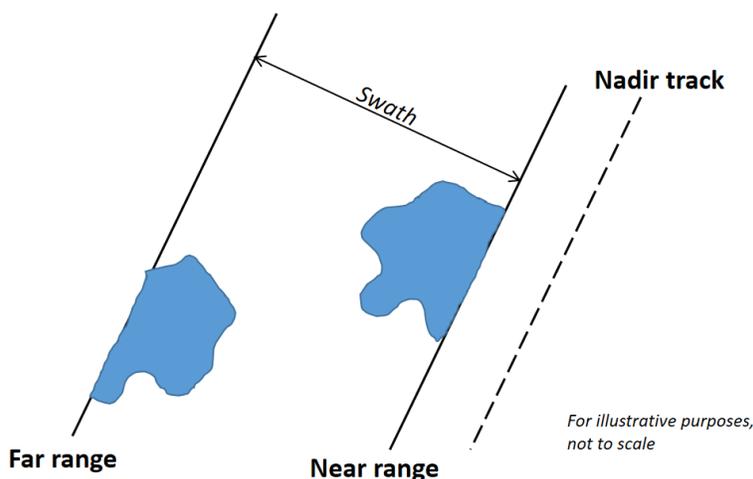
For simplicity, the term “lake” refers to both lakes identified in the PLD and unassigned features in the remainder of Section 3, except when they are specifically distinguished.

The content of each shapefile is a collection of records of shape type *polygon*. The polygon corresponds to the concave hull of the pixels after height-constrained geolocation [6] (Figure 2). The polygons are obtained by vectorizing PIXC (PIXCVec) edge pixels and can therefore be considered to have similar posting (in the order of 20 m in average) and resolution [7].

Lakes may be partially observed if they are located at the near or far range edges of the swath (Figure 3). The observation can also be incomplete because the water radar response is too weak to be detected as water for all or part of the lake (so-called “dark water” conditions). The *partial\_f* and *dark\_frac* flags inform the user of the quality degradation due to these two factors.



**Figure 2. Synthetic scene showing that the shapefile geometry of the lake product is a polygon (c), whose shape is computed from the PIXCVec pixel cloud with height-constrained geolocation (b), rather than the more noisy PIXC pixel cloud (a).**



**Figure 3. Example of partially observed lakes (in blue), due to their location at the edges of the swath (near and far range).**

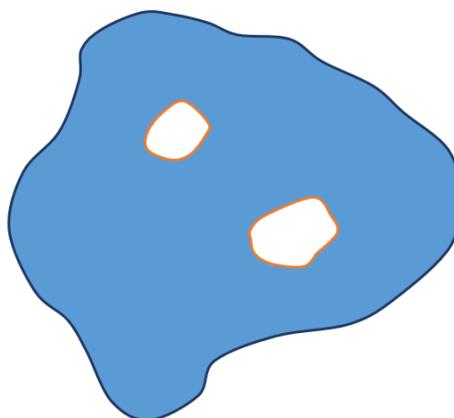
### 3.5 Temporal Organization

Each lake record is associated to a single time-tag corresponding to the average time-tag of all measurements contributing to the record.

The records are not strictly time-ordered in any of the three shapefiles.

### 3.6 Spatial Organization

Each record corresponds to a lake referenced by a geolocated polygon. This polygon is composed of one or more “rings” (using ESRI terminology); one outer ring defining the lake’s outer edge, and possibly also inner rings, delineating the boundaries of islands within the lake. The lake surface corresponds to the area inside the outer ring and outside any inner rings (Figure 4).



**Figure 4. The lake surface (in blue) corresponds to the area comprised between the outer ring (i.e. the lake boundary, in dark blue) and any inner rings (i.e. possible islands, in orange).**

In the observation-oriented L2\_HR\_LakeSP lake shapefile and unassigned features shapefile, the records are written in the order in which they are processed, and are not geographically ordered.

The records of the PLD-oriented L2\_HR\_LakeSP lake shapefile are ordered by increasing lake identifier (Section 4.2).

### 3.7 Volume

Table 2 provides the expected volume of the individual shapefiles composing the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product.

The values provided in Table 2 are based on the following assumptions:

- The .dbf file for attributes represents **~165 bytes / lake** for LakeTile\_Obs, **~231 byte / lake** for LakeTile\_Prior, and **~136 bytes / feature** for LakeTile\_Unassigned
- The size of the .shp shape file is **144 + 4\*[number of lakes] + 16\*[number of lakes]\*[number of points per lake] bytes**

- The .shx index file represents **100 + 8\*[number of lakes] bytes**
- The number of points per polygon is considered to be ~100 on the average. As an example, in the lake *a priori* database over Europe, there are ~487000 lake polygons, with a median number of 23 points, a mean of 51 points, and a maximum of 82138 points; therefore, **100** points seems to be a conservative average estimate (i.e. with some margin).
- For the computation of the volume per granule (i.e. pass/continent), the following conservative numbers of lakes over a pass/continent granule were used:
  - **~8500 lakes** as a median (for example: continent-pass granule 4\_146 contains 8291 PLD lakes)
  - **~30000 lakes** as a mean (for example: continent-pass granule 2\_027 contains 24066 PLD lakes)
  - **~250000 lakes** as a maximum (continent-pass granule 8\_466 contains 208432 PLD lakes)
- As a first guess, the number of unassigned features is assumed to be the same as the number of observed PLD lakes.

**Table 2. Description of the data volume of each file of L2\_HR\_LakeSP product.**

Shapefile	Name	Expected Median Volume/Granule (MB/pass/continent)	Expected Mean Volume/Granule (MB/pass/continent)	Maximum Volume/Granule (MB/pass/continent)
1	Obs shapefile (all files in Table 1)	14	51	424
2	Prior shapefile (all files in Table 1)	15	53	439
3	Unassigned shapefile (all files in Table 1)	14	50	416
	Total	43	154	1280

## 4 Qualitative Description

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP vector product is derived from the KaRIn measured height, geolocation, and classification data in the L2\_HR\_PIXC product [7]. In the description to follow, the L2\_HR\_PIXC products that correspond to the area of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product granule are referred to as the pixel cloud, and individual pixel cloud array elements as pixels. The classification information from the pixel cloud distinguishes water pixels from land pixels (and between different types of water and land pixels) [7]. As discussed in the Level 2 KaRIn High Rate Lake Single Pass Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document (ATBD) [6], this information is used to aggregate high-resolution pixel cloud data to the L2\_HR\_LakeSP vector products. That is, the pixels not already associated to a known river feature from the PRD are aggregated into separate entities. An exception is for lakes connected to a river topology, which are contained in both the L2\_HR\_RiverSP and the L2\_HR\_LakeSP products. Once the pixels are assigned, ensemble measurement quantities (area, WSE...) for each feature are computed from the pixels that were assigned to the feature. Features intersecting lakes in the PLD are represented both in an observation-oriented lake shapefile and in a PLD-oriented lake shapefile, but storage change information is only included in the latter. Unassigned features are stored in a separate observation-oriented shapefile.

The files that make up the shapefile format are described in Section 3.2. The format of the .shp file is specified in [5]. The .shp file provides geolocated polygons (latitudes and longitudes) defining lake boundaries as well as any island in it, derived from SWOT measurements. There is one record for each observed lake in the granule in the observation-oriented lake shapefile, one record for each PLD-lake covered by the granule in the PLD-oriented lake shapefile, and one record for each remaining observed feature in the shapefile for unassigned features. Measured or observed (the terms are used interchangeably in this document) values for lake attributes are mostly calculated from pixel attributes as “representative values”. The methods for calculating each attribute are given in [6]. Each record in the .dbf file contains attributes that can be conceptually grouped in the subsections below.

The following conventions are applied to the attribute names:

- Prefix “\_p\_” indicates that information is taken from the PLD,
- Suffix “\_c” indicates a correction,
- Suffix “\_f” indicates a flag,
- Suffix “\_u” indicates an uncertainty. Unless otherwise stated, all uncertainties represent one-sigma or 68th-percentile uncertainty estimates.

Attributes are tagged explicitly as “Basic” or “Expert” in the product metadata. This tag allows the distribution agent to make a subset file of Basic items for users who need only that information. Basic items are intended for users who will use the information derived from the KaRIn measurements as provided. Expert items are intended for users who are interested in the details of how the KaRIn measurements were derived and who may use detailed information for their own customized processing. Basic items include time, the main hydrological attributes (with uncertainties), flags, and related items from the PLD. Expert items include additional measurements, instrument and correction information. Details of the attributes are given in Section 5.

Unless otherwise specified, quantities are given in SI (MKS) units. Note that surfaces are given in km<sup>2</sup> rather than m<sup>2</sup>, and likewise volumes are given in km<sup>3</sup> rather than m<sup>3</sup>.

## 4.1 Observation-oriented lake file

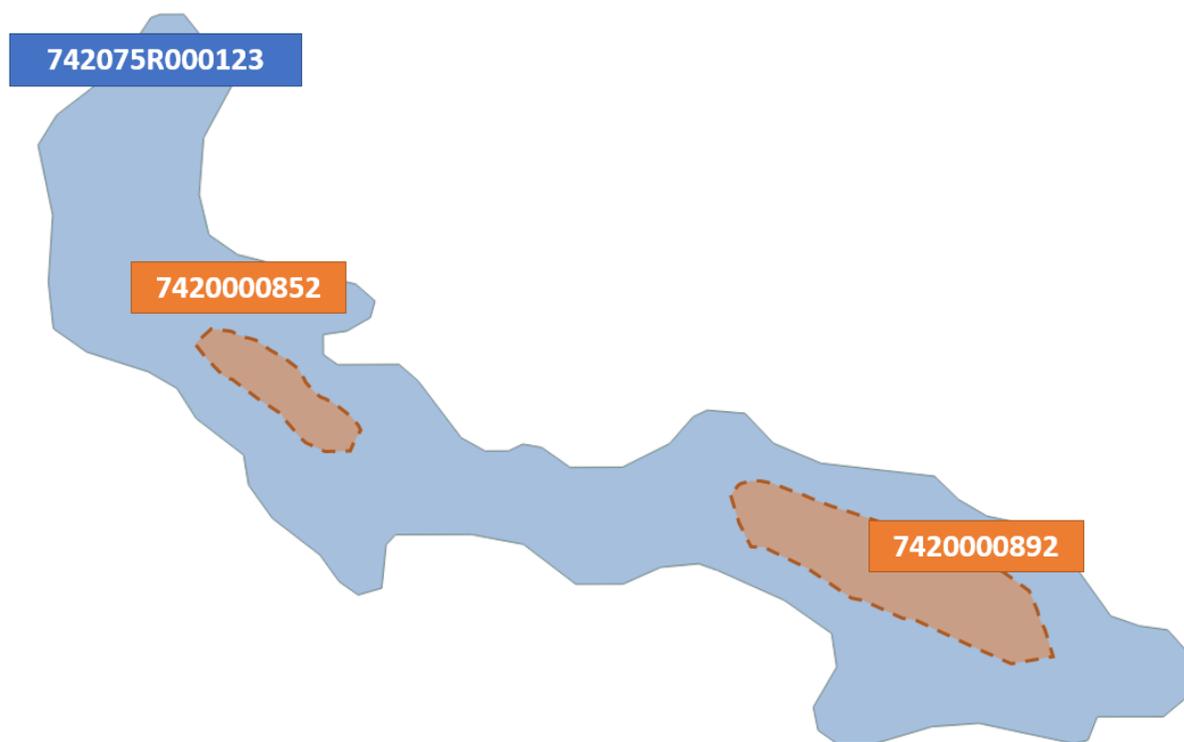
### 4.1.1 Identifiers

The SWOT L2\_HR\_LakeSP product stores all the features detected as water and not processed as regular river reaches. These features may be lakes referenced in the PLD, including reservoirs that are also referenced in the PRD, or unassigned features found in neither the PLD nor the PRD. Moreover, note that the data used to construct the PLD (such as high-resolution optical satellite imagery) may have observed these lakes during a specific season. Therefore, it is possible that a SWOT-observed lake may correspond to a drier or more flooded state of a lake than represented in the PLD. Figure 5 shows one such example, where two lakes defined in the PLD (orange shapes) are encompassed by the actual SWOT-observed water body shape (blue shape).

To accommodate this situation, two identifier attributes are included, *obs\_id* and *lake\_id*. The *obs\_id* attribute identifies a detected water feature and the associated L2\_HR\_PIXC pixel cloud tile [7]. The *lake\_id* attribute identifies one or more lakes in the PLD intersecting the observed lake. It provides the link between these SWOT-observed lake locations and their corresponding entries in the PLD. Note that the *lake\_id* attribute is analogous to the *reach\_id* and *node\_id* attributes in the river vector (L2\_HR\_RiverSP) product [2]. For the observation-oriented lake file the identifiers and associated attributes are as follows:

- *obs\_id* (Basic): Identifier of the observed water body. It is unique to each detected water feature and observation within the cycle and pass. The format of the identifier is a 13-character string of the form **CBBTTTSNNNNNN** where **C**=continent code, **BB**=basin code, **TTT**= L2\_HR\_PIXC tile number within the pass, **S**=swath side (R for Right and L for Left), and **NNNNNN**=lake counter in the L2\_HR\_PIXC tile. For a lake spanning multiple tiles, the *obs\_id* identifier corresponds to the L2\_HR\_PIXC tile that provided the majority of the pixels for the observed lake.
- *lake\_id* (Basic): Identifier of lake(s) in the PLD intersecting the observed lake. The format of the identifier is a 10-character string of the form **CBBNNNNNT** where **C**=continent code, **BB**=basin code, **NNNNNN**=lake counter in the basin, and **T**=water body type. If the observed lake intersects more than one prior lake, this attribute consists of a list of all the *lake\_id* identifiers, separated by a semicolon character; the identifiers are ordered by decreasing overlapping area, i.e. the first PLD identifier in the list corresponds to the PLD lake having the largest overlapping area with the observed lake (cf. Figure 5).
- *overlap* (Basic): The attribute *overlap* provides, for each PLD lake listed in *lake\_id*, the fraction (integer percentage) of the observed lake that is overlapped by the PLD lake, i.e. the overlap area divided by the total area of the observed lake.
- *n\_overlap* (Basic): Number of lake(s) in the PLD intersecting the observed lake. Therefore, this attribute provides the number of elements in *lake\_id* and *overlap* attributes.

- *reach\_id* (Basic): If at least one of the PLD lakes related to the observed lake are connected lakes (*lake\_id* attribute ending with digit 3), this attribute provides the list of the *reach\_id* identifiers of the corresponding river reaches of type connected lake in the PRD (i.e. with a *reach\_id* attribute ending with digit 3).



**Figure 5. Observed lake (in blue) and associated PLD lakes (in orange). Observed lakes are considered associated to PLD lakes if their polygons intersect. In this case, *obs\_id* = “742075R000123” meaning the continent code is 7=North America, the basin code is 42, the tile number is 75 right swath (R), and the number of the lake within the tile is 123. For the *lake\_id*, note that there are two associated lakes (type=2, meaning they are disconnected lakes) in the PLD, indexed as lake 85 and lake 89 in basin 42. The overlapping area between PLD lake “7420000892” and observed lake is larger than the overlapping area between PLD lake “7420000852” and observed lake. Therefore the associated *lake\_id* = “7420000892; 7420000852”.**

Both *obs\_id* and *lake\_id* are based on the Pfafstetter coding system [8] that is constructed using the topology of river networks. The code allows digits 0-9 at each hierarchy level. Continent code (C) and water body type (T) codes are provided in Table 3 and Table 4, respectively. The geographical delineation of the continents is shown in Figure 6.

As indicated in Table 4, lakes are separated into two types, connected lakes (T=3) and disconnected lakes (T=2). Note that lake water bodies that are connected to the river topology (T=3) are included both in the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product and in the L2\_HR\_RiverSP product. Connectivity is defined specifically in relation to the PRD, so lakes that are termed disconnected (T=2) here may, in fact, be connected to a river network, but via channels too small to be included in the PRD.

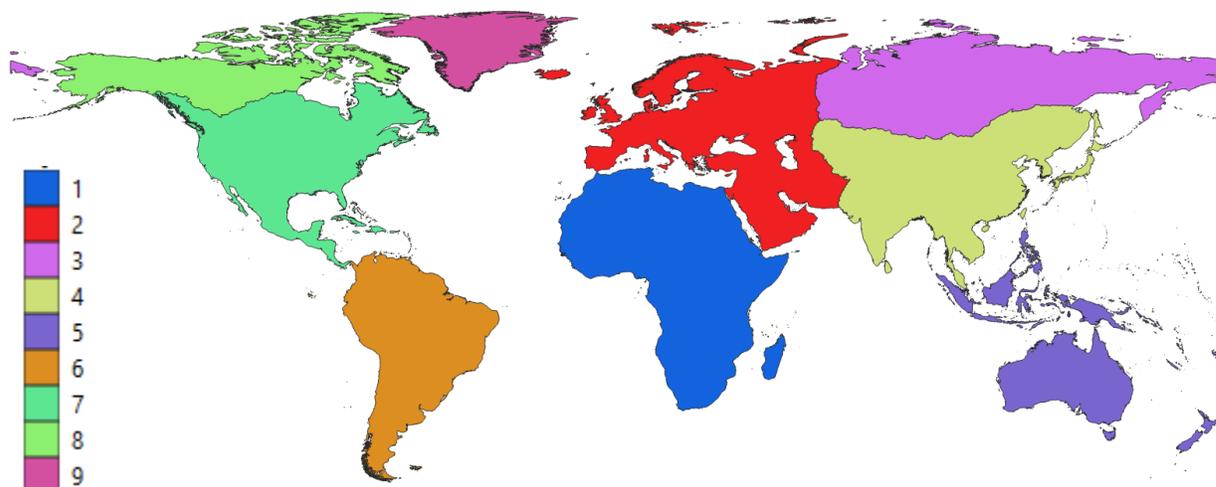


Figure 6. Geographical delineation of continents from HydroBASINS [9].

Table 3. Continent codes for the *obs\_id* and *lake\_id* attributes, and continent IDs for the filename.

Continent Code (C)	Continent	Continent ID
1	Africa	AF
2	Europe and Middle East	EU
3	Siberia	SI
4	Central and South-East Asia	AS
5	Australia and Oceania	AU
6	South America	SA
7	North America and Caribbean	NA
8	North American Arctic	AR
9	Greenland	GR

Table 4. Water body type codes for the *obs\_id* and *lake\_id* attributes.

Type Code (T)	Water Body Type
1	River ( <i>not used in this product</i> )
2	Disconnected lake
3	Connected lake
4	Dam ( <i>not used in this product</i> )
5	No topology ( <i>not used in this product</i> )

The continent code (C) is Level 1 in the Pfafstetter code. As indicated in the template above, *obs\_id* and *lake\_id* values are based upon Pfafstetter Level 3, leading to 3 digits (CBB). Note that the continent codes in Table 3 are consistent with the continent coding used in the HydroBASINS product [9].

Figure 7 shows an example of what the coding may look like at Level 1 ( $C = 7$ ) for the basin encompassing Mississippi (first level  $B = 4$ ). Within each basin level, the lake is numbered with

000001 to a maximum of 999999 (i.e., a zero-padded six-digit number, represented as NNNNNN). Note that in the *obs\_id* attribute name, this six-digit number refers to the L2\_HR\_PIXC tile number within the continent pass. Continent and basin polygons are available from [9].

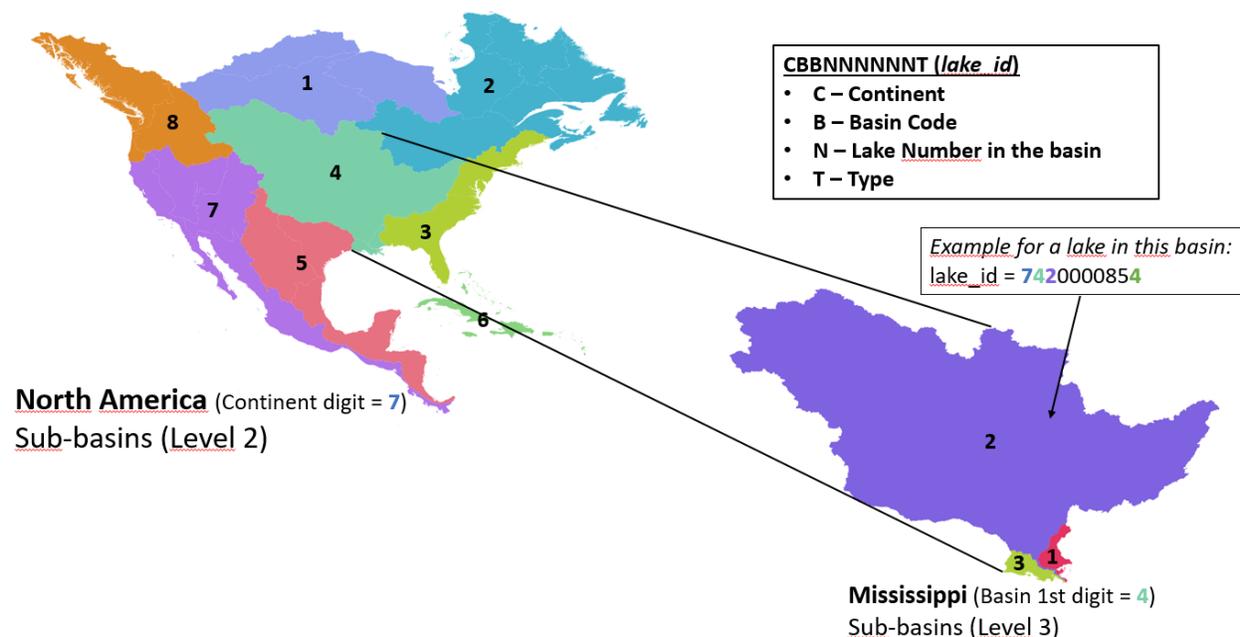


Figure 7. Example of the Pfafstetter basin coding system over North America, limited to the 3 first levels used in the identifiers of the lake products.

#### 4.1.2 Time

Time tags for each polygon are provided in UTC and TAI time scales using the attributes *time* and *time\_tai*, respectively:

- *time*: Time in UTC time scale (seconds since January 1, 2000 00:00:00 UTC which is equivalent to January 1, 2000 00:00:32 TAI),
- *time\_tai*: Time in TAI time scale (seconds since January 1, 2000 00:00:00 TAI, which is equivalent to December 31, 1999 23:59:28 UTC).

The attribute *time* has a metadata field named *tai\_utc\_difference*, which represents the difference between TAI and UTC (i.e., total number of leap seconds) at the time of the first measurement record in the products granule.

- $time\_tai[0] = time[0] + tai\_utc\_difference$

The above relationship holds true for all measurement records unless an additional leap second occurs within the time span of the products granule. To account for this, the variable *time* also has a metadata field named *leap\_second* which provides the date at which a leap second might have occurred within the time span of the products granule. The variable *time* exhibits a jump when a leap second occurs. If no additional leap second occurs within the time span of the

products granule *time*: *leap\_second* is set to “0000-00-00T 00:00:00Z”.

Table 5 below provides some examples for the values of *time*, *time\_tai*, and *tai\_utc\_difference*. With this approach, the value of *time* has a 1 second regression during a leap second transition, while *time\_tai* is continuous. That is, when a positive leap second is inserted, two different instances have the same value for the variable *time*, making time non-unique by itself; the difference between *time* and *time\_tai*, or the *tai\_utc\_difference* and *leap\_second* metadata fields, can be used to resolve this. Some examples are provided in the table below.

**Table 5. Examples of UTC and TAI dates, and corresponding *time*, *time\_tai*, and *tai\_utc\_difference*.**

UTC Date	TAI Date	<i>time</i>	<i>time_tai</i>	<i>tai_utc_difference</i>
January 1, 2000 00:00:00	January 1, 2000 00:00:32	0.0	32.0	32
December 31, 2016 23:59:59	January 1, 2017 00:00:35	536543999.0	536544035.0	36
December 31, 2016 23:59:59.5	January 1, 2017 00:00:35.5	536543999.5	536544035.5	36
December 31, 2016 23:59:60	January 1, 2017 00:00:36	536543999.0	536544036.0	37
January 1, 2017 00:00:00	January 1, 2017 00:00:37	536544000.0	536544037.0	37
January 1, 2017 12:00:00	January 1, 2017 12:00:37	536587200.0	536587237.0	37

The UTC time corresponding to the numeric *time* attribute is also given as a string attribute (*time\_str*): YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ssZ (with ‘Z’ suffix to indicate UTC time). The *time* and *time\_tai* attributes maintain sub-second precision, but *time\_str* is truncated to one-second precision.

#### 4.1.3 Measured hydrological parameters

The basic hydrological attributes of the SWOT measurement include WSE (*wse*) and water surface area (*area\_total*).

Two additional (expert) area attributes (*area\_detct* and *area\_wse*) are provided for information and for quality-assessment purposes. *area\_detct* includes the actual SWOT-detected water surface area, including open water and area near land-water boundaries [6]. The basic attribute *area\_total* is the sum of *area\_detct* and the area of any “dark water” (the area of water that was not observed directly by SWOT owing to a low radar echo level, which can occur over very smooth water surfaces, or by significant attenuation of the radar signal due to propagation through rain). Areas of dark water are identified in ground processing through the use of a prior water probability map [7].

The attribute *area\_wse* represents the water surface area over which the SWOT measurements of height contribute to the reported WSE (*wse*) for the lake. The value of *area\_wse* may be less than *area\_total* if some of the measurements fail validity checks during processing.

Each basic quantity has an associated uncertainty. The methods for calculating the lake quantities and associated uncertainties from the pixel values are given in the ATBD [6]. For WSE, the random-only component of the total uncertainty (*wse\_r\_u*) is provided in addition to the total uncertainty (*wse\_u*). The random-only component here is taken to be the component that is independent between lakes, not including systematic errors that would be common from lake to lake within a granule. The WSE systematic uncertainty component can be computed from

$$\text{sqrt}((wse\_u)^2 - (wse\_r\_u)^2).$$

The WSE given in the product is reported with respect to the provided model of the geoid (*geoid\_hght*), and after using models to accounts for the effects of tides (see Section 4.1.5). Specifically, if  $H$  represents the geocentric height of the water surface with respect to the reference ellipsoid after applying corrections for media delays (see Section 4.1.6) and the crossover calibration (see Section 4.1.7), then *wse* is computed as follows:

$$wse = H - geoid\_hght - solid\_tide - load\_tidef - pole\_tide$$

Attributes are tagged as basic or expert, as indicated in the table in Section 5 (*tag\_basic\_expert*).

- *wse* (Basic): Uncertainty-weighted average water surface elevation of the lake, relative to the provided model of the geoid (*geoid\_hght* attribute, see Section 4.1.5), with corrections for media delays (wet and dry troposphere, and ionosphere) and tidal effects (*solid\_tide*, *load\_tidef*, and *pole\_tide*) applied.
- *wse\_u* (Basic): Total uncertainty (random and systematic) in the lake WSE. The value includes uncertainties of corrections and references.
- *wse\_r\_u* (Expert): Random-only component of the uncertainty in the lake WSE.
- *wse\_std* (Basic): Standard deviation of the water surface elevation of all the pixels composing the lake. Note that this value is computed after removing the contributions of the geoid and tide terms (see the *wse* variable), whereas the heights of pixels in the L2\_HR\_PIXC product are given with respect to the ellipsoid and without tide corrections.
- *area\_total* (Basic): Total estimated water surface area, including *area\_detct* and any dark water that was not detected as water in the SWOT observation, but identified through the use of a prior water likelihood map.
- *area\_tot\_u* (Basic): Total uncertainty (random and systematic) in the total estimated water surface area *area\_total*.
- *area\_detct* (Expert): Actual SWOT-detected water surface area, including open water and water near land.
- *area\_det\_u* (Expert): Total uncertainty (random and systematic) in the surface area of the detected water pixels.
- *layovr\_val* (Expert): Estimate of the WSE error due to layover.
- *xtrk\_dist* (Basic): Distance of the lake polygon centroid from the spacecraft nadir track; this value is computed using a local spherical Earth approximation. A negative value indicates that the lake is on the left side of the swath, relative to the spacecraft velocity vector. A positive value indicates that the lake is on the right side of the swath.

#### 4.1.4 Quality indicators

Flags indicating conditions that affect data quality are given as basic attributes. In general,

flag values of zero indicate good data.

- *quality\_f* (Basic): Summary quality indicator for the lake measurement. Values of 0 and 1 indicate nominal and off-nominal measurements, respectively.
- *dark\_frac* (Expert): Fraction of the lake total area (*area\_total*) covered by dark water, equal to  $1 - (\text{area\_detct} / \text{area\_total})$ . This value is typically between 0 and 1, with 0 indicating no dark water and 1 indicating 100% dark water. However, the value may be outside the range from 0 to 1 due to noise in the underlying area estimates.
- *ice\_clim\_f* (Basic): Climatological ice cover flag indicating whether the lake is ice-covered on the day of the observation based on climatological ice coverage [10] (not the SWOT measurement). Values of 0, 1, and 2 indicate that the lake is likely not ice covered, may or may not be partially or fully ice covered, and likely fully ice covered, respectively. In case of an observed lake associated to more than one PLD lake, the resulting flag is a combination of the flags of all the prior lakes. For example, if the observed lake intersects two PLD lakes, one being fully ice-covered and the other not, the resulting flag is partially ice-covered.
- *ice\_dyn\_f* (Basic): Dynamic ice cover flag indicating whether the lake is ice-covered on the day of the observation based on analysis of external optical satellite data [10] (not the SWOT measurement). Values of 0, 1, and 2 indicate that the lake is not ice covered, partially ice covered, and fully ice covered, respectively. Due to the latency of computing the dynamic ice flag, this value may be completely null filled in some processing versions of the data product. When available, *ice\_dyn\_f* is likely to be more reliable than *ice\_clim\_f* given that it is based on optical satellite observations representative of the surface conditions at the time of the SWOT observation.
- *partial\_f* (Basic): Flag that indicates partial lake coverage. The flag is 0 if the observed lake is fully covered by a half-swath; the flag is 1 if the observed lake hits the near- or far-range edge of the half-swath, and therefore, that a part of it may be lost.
- *xovr\_cal\_q* (Basic): Flag that indicates the quality of the cross-over calibration.

#### 4.1.5 Geophysical references

The geoid height, from a model, in meters above the reference ellipsoid (defined by the .prj file) is a basic attribute. This information enables the user to convert the observed WSE to a different representation.

Expert attributes provide the tide heights, from models, that were used to calculate the *wse* attribute. Note that while the model solution used to account for the effect of the ocean tide loading on the Earth's crust is provided in the attribute *load\_tidef*, a second model solution (*load\_tideg*) is provided for users who desire to swap these models. Each geophysical reference value provided in the product is computed as the average over all pixels in the associated feature [6].

The associated geophysical reference parameters include:

- *geoid\_hght* (Basic): Model for geoid height above the reference ellipsoid whose parameters are given in the .prj file. The geoid model is EGM2008 [11]. The geoid model includes a correction to refer the value to the mean tide system (i.e., it includes the zero-frequency permanent tide).
- *solid\_tide* (Expert): Model for the solid Earth (body) tide height. The reported value is calculated using the Cartwright/Taylor/Edden [12] [13] tide-generating potential coefficients and consists of the second and third degree constituents. The permanent tide (zero frequency) is not included.
- *pole\_tide* (Expert): Model for the surface height displacement from the geocentric pole tide. The value is the sum total of the contribution from the solid-Earth (body) pole tide height [14] and a model for the load pole tide height [15]. The value is computed using the reported Earth pole location after correction for a linear drift [16]: in milliarcsec,

$$Xp = 55.0 + 1.677dt$$

$$Yp = 320.5 + 3.46dt$$

where dt is years since 2000.0.

- *load\_tidef* (Expert): Model for geocentric surface height displacement from the load tide. The value is from the FES2014b ocean tide model [17]. The value is used to compute *wse*.
- *load\_tideg* (Expert): Model for geocentric surface height displacement from the load tide. The value is from the GOT4.10c ocean tide model [18]. To compute *wse* with this model, add *load\_tidef* to *wse* and subtract *load\_tideg*.

#### 4.1.6 Geophysical range corrections

Model-based corrections for the wet and dry troposphere and the ionosphere contributions to the measured range are provided for each lake as expert attributes. The reported values are averages over the values of the pixels in the associated feature [6]. Additional details on these media delays are provided in [7]. Note that while these media delays are corrected during processing along the slanted (non-vertical) radar signal propagation paths, they are provided in these attributes as equivalent vertical quantities after applying a cross-track-dependent obliquity factor. The additional path delay relative to free space results is a negative correction value that is added to the uncorrected range. However, a decrease in the measured range gives an increase in the measured height. Consequently, adding the reported correction terms to the reported *wse* value results in the uncorrected reach WSE. Model-based corrections are based on SWOT-independent information from the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts (ECMWF) and Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) Global Ionosphere Maps (GIM). The sources of the model data used for these corrections are given in the metadata provided in the .shp.xml file (see Section 5.1.3).

- *dry\_trop\_c* (Expert): Model-based equivalent vertical dry tropospheric path delay correction. This value is computed using surface pressure from the ECMWF numerical weather model.
- *wet\_trop\_c* (Expert): Model-based equivalent vertical wet tropospheric path delay correction. This value is computed from the ECMWF numerical weather model.
- *iono\_c* (Expert): Equivalent vertical ionospheric path delay correction from the JPL Global Ionosphere Maps (GIM) for the KaRIn Ka-band signal.

#### 4.1.7 Instrument corrections

Instrument corrections applied to the KaRIn data are provided as expert attributes. The crossover correction is based on SWOT observations over the ocean to correct for attitude effects. Further details are supplied in the ATBD [6]. These corrections are provided so that a different or updated calibration can be applied to the lake height without regenerating the pixel cloud or lake vector products.

- *xovr\_cal\_c* (Expert): Height correction to *wse* computed from a combination of sea surface height crossovers between KaRIn/KaRIn measurements and KaRIn/nadir altimeter measurements on different passes within a temporal window surrounding the height measurement. This correction provides an estimate of residual errors that have not been removed with use of ancillary attitude and calibration data during processing. The correction is applied before geolocation, but it is reported in the product as an equivalent height correction. The correction term should be subtracted from the reported *wse* to obtain the uncorrected WSE.

#### 4.1.8 Prior Lake Database (PLD) information

Information from the PLD is provided in the product along with the measurements to allow easier connection or comparison with other data. The information sources, generation methods, and accuracy are described in [3].

If an observed lake is associated to more than one PLD lake, the attributes are populated with the values corresponding to the PLD lake having the largest overlapping area with the observed lake.

- *lake\_name* (Basic): Name(s) of the lake, retrieved from Open Street Map, IGN Carthage, GLWD and vMap0 databases.
- *p\_res\_id* (Basic): Reservoir identifier from the Global Reservoir and Dam (GRanD) database [19]. Note that if the PLD lake corresponds to a reservoir, its corresponding *lake\_id* identifier ends with digit 3.

## 4.2 PLD-oriented lake file

The PLD-oriented lake shapefile has to a large extent the same structure and attributes as the observation-oriented lake shapefile, except that it has one record per PLD lake covered by the granule (including unobserved PLD lakes), rather than one record per observed lake, and because it contains storage change information. In this section we only describe the differences with respect to the observation-oriented lake shapefile described in Section 4.1. All other attributes are the same as in the observation-oriented lake shapefile, except that measurements are aggregated over PLD lakes rather than observed lakes.

As illustrated in Figure 1 (c), the polygon of a record in the PLD-oriented lake shapefile is composed of one or several polygons, each of them corresponding either to an entire observed lake (for observed lakes assigned to one single PLD lake) or to part of an observed lake (for observed lakes that have been assigned to several PLD lakes). In the latter case, the split of the

polygon of the observed lake is done based on the distance to the respective PLD polygons.

As opposed to the observation-oriented lake shapefile, the PLD-oriented lake shapefile includes records for unobserved PLD lakes covered by the granule. The attributes of these records are set to the fill values, except those containing PLD information, and there is no polygon (empty shape).

#### 4.2.1 Identifiers

As the PLD-oriented lake shapefile has one record per PLD lake covered by the granule (including unobserved PLD lakes), rather than one record per observed lake, there is one unique *lake\_id* per record, but possibly several *obs\_ids*, listed by decreasing fractional overlap as given by the attribute *overlap* (note that the computation of this attribute is different from that of the observation-oriented lake shapefile, as described below):

- *lake\_id* (Basic): Principal identifier of the records of the PLD-oriented lake shapefile, corresponding to the PLD lake identifier. The format of the identifier is a 10-character string of the form **CBBNNNNNT** where **C**=continent code, **BB**=basin code, **NNNNNN**=lake counter in the basin, and **T**=water body type.
- *reach\_id* (Basic): If this PLD lake is a connected lake, this attribute provides the list of the identifiers of the river reaches (i.e. *reach\_id* attribute in the PRD) of type “Connected lake” (i.e. ending with digit 3) that are related to it.
- *obs\_id* (Basic): Identifier of the observed water body. It is unique to each detected water feature and observation within the cycle and pass. The format of the identifier is a 13-character string of the form **CBBTTTSNNNNNN** where **C**=continent code, **BB**=basin code, **TTT**= L2\_HR\_PIXC tile number within the pass, **S**=swath side (R for Right and L for Left), and **NNNNNN**=lake counter in the L2\_HR\_PIXC tile. For a lake spanning multiple tiles, the *obs\_id* identifier corresponds to the L2\_HR\_PIXC tile that provided the majority of the pixels for the observed lake. If a PLD lake intersects more than one observed lake, this attribute consists of a list of all the *obs\_id* identifiers, separated by a semicolon character; the identifiers are ordered by decreasing overlapping area, i.e. the first identifier in the list corresponds to the observed lake having the largest overlapping area with the PLD lake.
- The attribute *overlap* provides, for each observed lake listed in *obs\_id*, the fraction (integer percentage) of the PLD lake that is overlapped by the observed lake, i.e. the overlap area divided by the total area of the PLD lake. Note that the computation of this attribute is different from that of the observation-oriented lake shapefile.
- *n\_overlap* (Basic): Number of observed lake(s) intersecting the PLD lake. Therefore, this attribute provides the number of elements in *obs\_id* and *overlap* attributes.

#### 4.2.2 Prior Lake Database (PLD) information

In addition to the *lake\_name* and *p\_res\_id* attributes described in Section 4.1.8, the following prior attributes are included in the PLD-oriented shapefile, in particular to have a minimum of geolocation information for unobserved lakes:

- *p\_lon* (Basic): Longitude of a reference point within the PLD lake.
- *p\_lat* (Basic): Latitude of a reference point within the PLD lake.

This prior reference point lies within the PLD polygon and maximises the distance to the polygon (“deepest point”).

In addition, the PLD-oriented shapefile contains prior information from the PLD that is needed to compute storage change (Section 4.2.3).

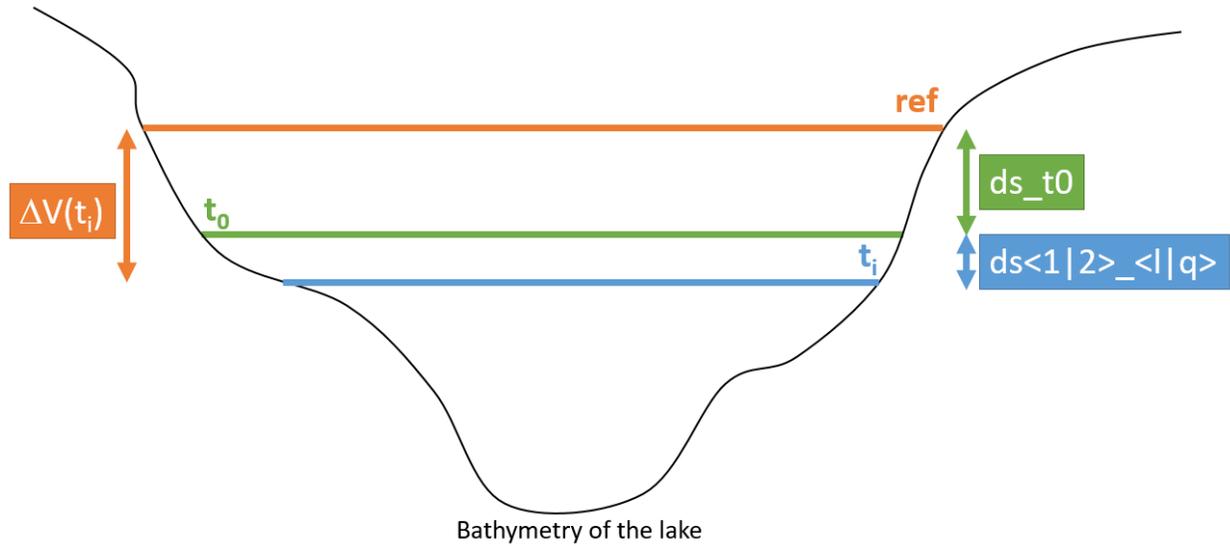
- *p\_ref\_wse* (Basic): Reference water surface elevation used to compute the storage change.
- *p\_ref\_area* (Basic): Reference water surface area used to compute the storage change.
- *p\_date\_t0* (Basic): Date of the first valid measurement for which storage change attributes, as described in Section 4.2.3, have been computed. Note that this date does not necessarily correspond to the reference water surface elevation and area.
- *p\_ds\_t0* (Basic): Value used to translate the storage change values initially computed with respect to the *p\_ref\_wse* and *p\_ref\_area* of the PLD lake, to the storage change relative to *p\_date\_t0*.
- *p\_storage* (Basic): Maximum water storage value, computed between the minimum and maximum observed levels of the lake. This field will be filled after one year of SWOT mission.

### 4.2.3 Storage change

Storage change is computed only for features in the PLD-oriented shapefile, because clearly defined reference areas and elevations are needed.

As illustrated in Figure 1 (c), a record in the PLD-oriented lake shapefile can correspond to an entire observed lake or part of it, or to several observed lakes, or part of them. Note that storage is not computed if the PLD lake is partially observed.

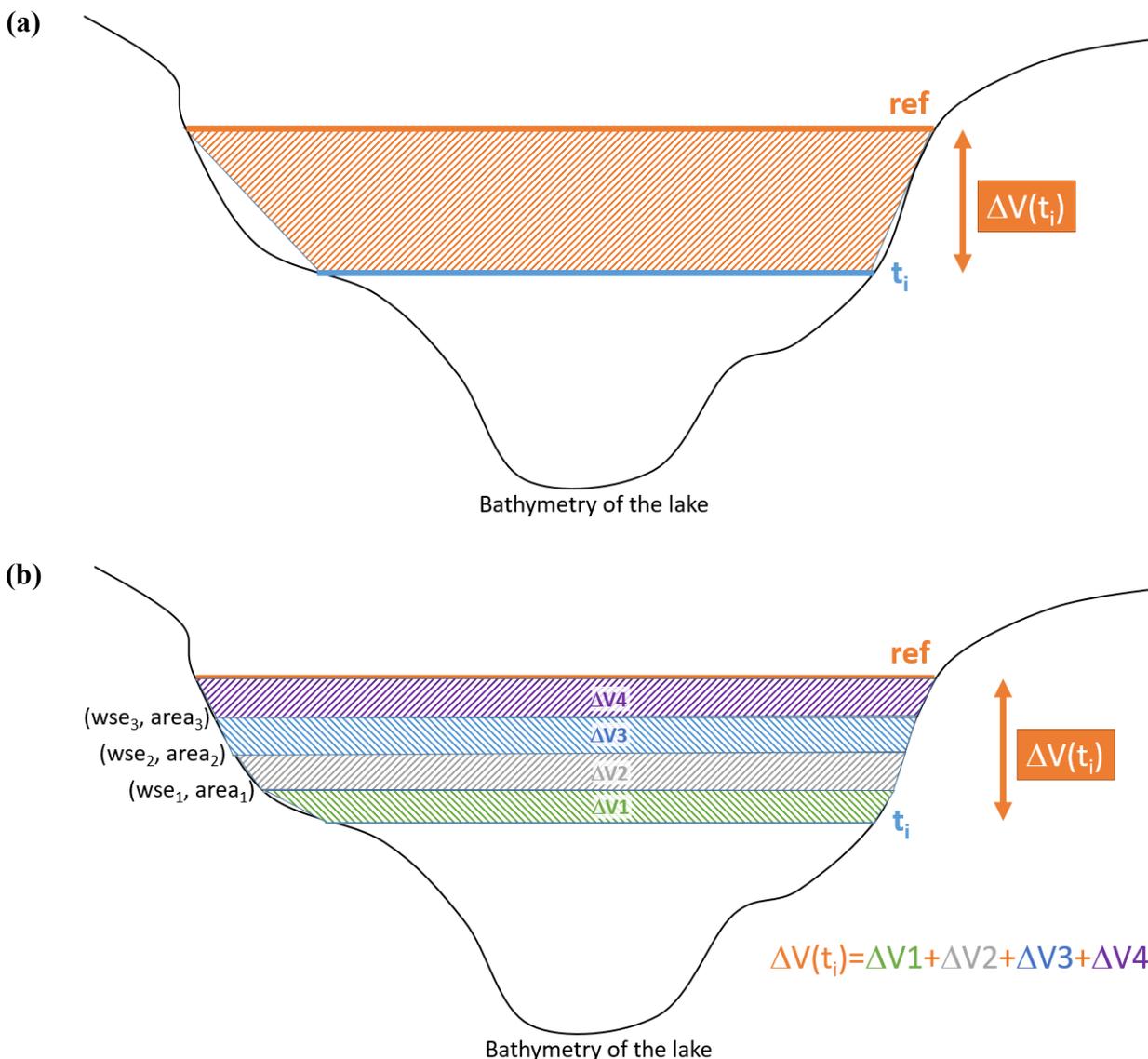
Storage change is computed from the water surface area and elevation aggregated over all the water pixels assigned to a given PLD lake, with respect to the PLD lake’s prior reference area and elevation provided in the *p\_ref\_area* and *p\_ref\_wse* attributes of the product (Section 4.2.2). The resulting value is then corrected by *p\_ds\_t0* to represent the storage change relative to the date of the first valid measurement *p\_date\_t0* (Figure 8). For the date *p\_date\_t0*, the storage change attributes *delta\_s\_l* and *delta\_s\_q* will therefore be zero.



**Figure 8. Storage change attributes are given with respect to the date of the first valid measurement  $p\_date\_t0$ .**

Storage change is computed with two different approaches [6]:

- The direct approach directly computes the storage change between the current observation at  $t_i$  and the reference state  $ref$  mentioned above (Figure 9a).
- The incremental approach computes an incremental volume between the current observation at  $t_i$  and a reference state  $ref$  (Figure 9b). These increments are given by a curve fitting a set of observed ( $wse, area\_total$ ) pairs retrieved from the PLD.



**Figure 9. Water volume between the current observation at  $t_i$  and the reference state  $ref$ , computed with (a) the direct approach and (b) the incremental approach. For the incremental approach, the  $wse_j$  and  $area_j$ , stored in the PLD, are obtained by a curve fitting a set of observed  $(wse, area\_total)$  pairs. Note that, to ease comprehension, measurements are represented as ideal on these figures, i.e. perfectly fitting the bathymetry.**

Each approach is computed according to two hypotheses concerning the lake bathymetry model:

- With the linear hypothesis, the volume change is approximated by the volume of a trapezoid. This formula is appropriate for lakes that are narrow or landlocked in relief.
- With the quadratic hypothesis, the volume change is approximated by the volume of a truncated pyramid. This formula is appropriate for lakes having a convex shape.

This leads to the following attributes in the product:

- *ds1\_l, ds1\_l\_u* (Basic): Storage change and associated uncertainty, computed by the direct approach with the linear hypothesis for the bathymetry model.
- *ds1\_q, ds1\_q\_u* (Basic): Storage change and associated uncertainty, computed by the direct approach with the quadratic hypothesis for the bathymetry model.
- *ds2\_l, ds2\_l\_u* (Basic): Storage change and associated uncertainty, computed by the incremental approach with the linear hypothesis for the bathymetry model.
- *ds2\_q, ds2\_q\_u* (Basic): Storage change and associated uncertainty, computed by the incremental approach with the quadratic hypothesis for the bathymetry model.

Note that the storage change of a PLD-lake between two passes can be computed directly by subtracting the storage change estimates of the individual passes.

### 4.3 Observation-oriented unassigned features file

The observation-oriented shapefile for unassigned features has the same structure and attributes as the observation-oriented lake shapefile described in Section 4.1, except that:

- It does not have a *lake\_id* attribute, nor any *overlap*, *n\_overlap* and *reach\_id* attributes (Section 4.1.1).
- It does not contain the attributes with PLD information described in Section 4.1.8.

All other attributes are computed as if the features were lakes, although they could also correspond to river portions not represented in the PRD, wetlands, or bright land. The data in this shapefile must therefore be used with caution, and the nature of an observed feature should be verified using other information sources.

Unassigned features that are observed repeatedly will be considered for inclusion when updating the PLD (and PRD) during the mission, and may this way become regular lakes (or river reaches) in reprocessed products.

## 5 Detailed Content

The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product adopts the Esri shapefile format and conventions [5]. The shapefile format stores geospatial data as primitive geometric shapes like points, polylines, and polygons representing locations, rivers, and lakes, respectively. These shapes, together with data attributes that are linked to each shape, create the representation of the geographic data. In this section a description of the information in the .dbf file is given. This information is also stored in the .shp.xml file of the lake shapefile. The .shp.xml file provides shapefile metadata information similar to what would be provided as global and per-variable attributes in a NetCDF format file. The format of the .shp.xml file is described in Appendix B.

### 5.1 Shapefile information

#### 5.1.1 Dimensions

The headers of the .shp and .shx lake files give the number of records in the shapefiles. However, the .dbf file does not have an entry for the number of records. All attributes in the .dbf file are scalars (each attribute corresponds to only a single integer, floating-point value, or text). However, some attributes are multi-valued: *obs\_id* (in the LakeSP\_Prior shapefile), *lake\_id* (in the LakeSP\_Obs shapefile) and *lake\_name* attributes are given as character strings in a semicolon-separated list of the observed lakes that correspond to a PLD lake, lakes from the PLD that intersect the observed lake, and the different names given to the lake, respectively.

#### 5.1.2 Attributes

The attributes of the .dbf file are assigned a name and a particular data type. Note that .dbf attributes are all stored as space-separated, formatted ASCII (ANSI) character strings rather than binary data types. Table 6 summarizes the type, field width and fill value for each data type.

**Table 6. Attribute data types in shapefile products.**

Data Type	Description	fill value
int4	integer (4-character storage)	-999
int9	integer (9-character storage)	-99999999
float	floating point (13-character storage)	-999999999999
text	maximum 254-character storage	"no_data"

#### 5.1.3 Metadata

The unique, descriptive metadata for each attribute (e.g., expected minimum and maximum values; e.g., the equivalent of the NetCDF attributes *valid\_min*, *valid\_max*) and the global metadata (e.g., SWOT pass number) generally follow the conventions defined for other SWOT products and are given in Table 7 and Table 8, respectively. Since metadata cannot be stored inside the .dbf file, the .shp.xml file will provide the metadata fields that apply to each shapefile attribute in the .dbf file. Not all metadata fields will be used for each shapefile attribute (e.g., the metadata field *leap\_second* is unique to the time attributes). A description of the .shp.xml file format is given in Appendix B.

**Table 7. Metadata fields used to describe shapefile attributes.**

Attribute	Description
basic_expert_tag	Tag to indicate whether the attribute is considered basic or expert.
calendar	Reference time calendar.
comment	Miscellaneous information about the attribute, or the methods to generate it.
coordinates	Coordinate variables associated with the attribute.
fill_value	The value used to represent missing or undefined data.
flag_meanings	The description of the meaning of each of the elements of flag_values.
flag_values	Values of the flag attribute. Used in conjunction with flag_meanings.
institution	Institution which generates the source data for the attribute, if applicable.
leap_second	UTC time at which a leap second occurs within the time span of the data represented in the attribute.
long_name	A descriptive name that indicates the content of the attribute.
quality_flag	Names of variable quality flag(s) that are associated with this attribute to indicate its quality.
source	Data source (model, author, or instrument).
standard_name	A standard name that indicates the attribute content.
tai_utc_difference	Difference between TAI and UTC reference time.
type	Attribute type (int4, int9, float or text)
units	Units of attribute.
valid_max	Maximum theoretical value of the attribute (not necessarily the same as maximum value of actual data)
valid_min	Minimum theoretical value of the attribute (not necessarily the same as minimum value of actual data)

**Table 8. Global metadata fields of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product.**

Attribute	Description
Conventions	Esri conventions as given in 'ESRI Shapefile Technical Description, an ESRI White Paper, July 1998' <a href="http://www.esri.com/library/whitepapers/pdfs/shapefile.pdf">http://www.esri.com/library/whitepapers/pdfs/shapefile.pdf</a>
title	Level 2 KaRIn high rate lake single pass vector product
short_name	L2_HR_LakeSP
product_file_id	[Obs Prior Unassigned]
institution	Name of producing agency.
source	The method of production of the original data. If it was model-generated, source should name the model and its version, as specifically as could be useful. If it is observational, source should characterize it (e.g., 'Ka-band radar interferometer')
history	UTC time when file generated. Format is: YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss : Creation
platform	SWOT
references	SWOT Science Algorithm Software Design: Level 2 KaRIn high rate lake single pass science algorithm software, SWOT-DD-CDM-0565-CNES, Revision A, May 31, 2022
reference_document	SWOT Product Description: Level 2 KaRIn high rate lake single pass vector product, SWOT-TN-CDM-0673, Revision A, May 31, 2022
product_version	Version identifier of this data file
crid	Composite release identifier (CRID) of the data system used to generate this file
pge_name	PGE_L2_HR_LakeSP
pge_version	Version identifier of the product generation executable (PGE) that created this file
contact	Contact information for producer of product. (e.g., 'ops@jpl.nasa.gov').
cycle_number	Cycle number of the product.

Attribute	Description
pass_number	Pass number of the product.
continent_id	Two-letter continent identifier of the product granule.
continent_code	One-digit (C) continent code of the product granule.
basin_code	Three-digit (CBB) code (from HydroBASINS) of the basins covered by the product granule, separated by a semi-column.
time_granule_start	Nominal starting UTC time of product granule. Format is: YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss.ssssssZ
time_granule_end	Nominal ending UTC time of product granule. Format is: YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss.ssssssZ
time_coverage_start	UTC time of first measurement. Format is: YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss.ssssssZ
time_coverage_end	UTC time of last measurement. Format is: YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss.ssssssZ
geospatial_lon_min	Westernmost longitude (deg) of granule bounding box
geospatial_lon_max	Easternmost longitude (deg) of granule bounding box
geospatial_lat_min	Southernmost latitude (deg) of granule bounding box
geospatial_lat_max	Northernmost latitude (deg) of granule bounding box
left_first_longitude	Nominal swath corner longitude for the first range line and left edge of the swath (degrees_east)
left_first_latitude	Nominal swath corner latitude for the first range line and left edge of the swath (degrees_north)
left_last_longitude	Nominal swath corner longitude for the last range line and left edge of the swath (degrees_east)
left_last_latitude	Nominal swath corner latitude for the last range line and left edge of the swath (degrees_north)
right_first_longitude	Nominal swath corner longitude for the first range line and right edge of the swath (degrees_east)
right_first_latitude	Nominal swath corner latitude for the first range line and right edge of the swath (degrees_north)
right_last_longitude	Nominal swath corner longitude for the last range line and right edge of the swath (degrees_east)
right_last_latitude	Nominal swath corner latitude for the last range line and right edge of the swath (degrees_north)
xref_l2_hr_pixc_files	Names of input Level 2 high rate water mask pixel cloud files.
xref_l2_hr_laketile_files	Names of input Level 2 high rate lake tile files.
xref_prior_lake_db_file	Name of input prior lake database file.
xref_param_l2_hr_laketile_file	Name of input Level 2 high rate lake tile processor configuration parameters file.

## 5.2 Observation-oriented lake file attribute description

Table 9 lists the lake .dbf shapefile attributes (bold left-most column), and their associated metadata fields from Table 7. The attributes are separated into the nine categories listed in Sections 4.1 through 4.9. Appendix B contains a description of the shp.xml format that was used to generate this table.

**Table 9. Attributes of the observation-oriented lake shapefile of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product.**

Lake ID		
<b>obs_id</b>		
	type	text
	long_name	identifier of the observed lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic

	comment	Unique lake identifier within the product. The format of the identifier is CBBTTTSSNNNNNN, where C=continent code, B=basin code, TTT=tile number within the pass, S=swath side, N=lake counter within the tile.
<b>lake_id</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	lake ID(s) from prior database
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	List of identifiers of prior lakes that intersect the observed lake. The format of the identifier is CBBNNNNNNT, where C=continent code, B=basin code, N=lake counter within the basin, T=type. The different lake identifiers are separated by semicolons.
<b>overlap</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	fraction of observed lake covered by each prior lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	List of fractions of observed lake area covered by each prior lake identified in lake_id attribute. The different fractions are separated by semicolons and refer one-to-one to the identifiers listed in the lake_id attribute.
<b>n_overlap</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	number of lake(s) in the PLD intersecting the observed lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Number of lake(s) in the PLD intersecting the observed lake. This attribute provides the number of elements in lake_id and overlap attributes.
<b>reach_id</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	list of reach ID(s) that intersect the observed lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	If at least one of the PLD lake(s) to which the observed lake are connected lakes, this attribute provides the list of the identifiers of the river reaches (i.e. reach_id attribute in the PRD) of type "Connected lake" (i.e. ending with digit 3) that are related to them.
<b>Time</b>		
<b>time</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	time (UTC)
	standard_name	time
	calendar	gregorian
	tai_utc_difference	[value of TAI-UTC at time of first record]
	leap_second	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss
	units	seconds since 2000-01-01 00:00:00.000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Time of measurement in seconds in the UTC time scale since 1 Jan 2000 00:00:00 UTC. [tai_utc_difference] is the difference between TAI and UTC reference time (seconds) for the first measurement of the data set. If a leap second occurs within the data set, the attribute leap_second is set to the UTC time at which the leap second occurs.
<b>time_tai</b>		
	type	float

	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	time (TAI)
	standard_name	time
	calendar	gregorian
	units	seconds since 2000-01-01 00:00:00.000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Time of measurement in seconds in the TAI time scale since 1 Jan 2000 00:00:00 TAI. This time scale contains no leap seconds. The difference (in seconds) with time in UTC is given by the attribute [time:tai_utc_difference].
<b>time_str</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	UTC time
	standard_name	time
	calendar	gregorian
	tai_utc_difference	[value of TAI-UTC at time of first record]
	leap_second	YYYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Time string giving UTC time. The format is YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ssZ, where the Z suffix indicates UTC time.
<b>Measured Hydrology Parameters</b>		
<b>wse</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	lake-averaged water surface elevation with respect to the geoid
	units	m
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	100000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Lake-averaged water surface elevation, relative to the provided model of the geoid (geoid_hght), with corrections for media delays (wet and dry troposphere, and ionosphere), crossover correction, and tidal effects (solid_tide, load_tidef, and pole_tide) applied.
<b>wse_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	total uncertainty in lake water surface elevation
	units	m
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	100
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Total one-sigma uncertainty (random and systematic) in the lake WSE, including uncertainties of corrections and references.
<b>wse_r_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	random-only uncertainty in the height water surface elevation
	units	m
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	100
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Random-only component in the lake water surface elevation, including uncertainties of corrections and references, and variation about the fit.

<b>wse_std</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	standard deviation of pixels wse
	units	m
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	100000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Standard deviation of the water surface elevation of all the pixels composing the lake. Note that this value is therefore with respect to the provided model of the geoid ( <i>geoid_hght</i> attribute) whereas the height of pixels is given with respect to the ellipsoid.
<b>area_total</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	total water area with estimate of dark water
	units	km^2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	200000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Total estimated area, including dark water that was not detected as water in the SWOT observation but identified through the use of a prior water likelihood map.
<b>area_tot_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	uncertainty in total water area
	units	km^2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	200000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Total uncertainty (random and systematic) in the total water area.
<b>area_detct</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	area of detected water pixels
	units	km^2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	200000
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Aggregation of used detected pixels area.
<b>area_det_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	uncertainty in area of detected water
	units	km^2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	200000
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Total uncertainty (random and systematic) in the area of detected water pixels.
<b>layovr_val</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	metric of layover effect

	units	m
	valid_min	-999999
	valid_max	999999
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Value indicating an estimate of the height error due to layover.
<b>xtrk_dist</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	distance of lake polygon centroid to the satellite ground track
	units	m
	valid_min	-75000
	valid_max	75000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Distance of centroid of polygon delineating lake boundary to the satellite ground track. A negative value indicates the left side of the swath, relative to the spacecraft velocity vector. A positive value indicates the right side of the swath.
<b>Quality Indicators</b>		
<b>quality_f</b>		
	type	int4
	fill_value	-999
	long_name	summary quality indicator for lake measurement
	flag_meanings	good bad
	flag_values	0 1
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	1
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Summary quality flag for the lake measurement. Values of 0 and 1 indicate nominal and off-nominal measurements.
<b>dark_frac</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	fractional area of dark water
	units	1
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	1
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Fraction of lake area_total covered by dark water. The value is between 0 and 1.
<b>ice_clim_f</b>		
	type	int4
	fill_value	-999
	long_name	climatological ice cover flag
	standard_name	status_flag
	source	Yang et al. (2020)
	flag_meanings	no_ice_cover uncertain_ice_cover full_ice_cover
	flag_values	0 1 2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	2
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Climatological ice cover flag indicating whether the lake is ice-covered on the day of the observation based on external climatological information (not the SWOT measurement). Values of 0, 1, and 2 indicate that the lake is likely not ice covered, may or may not be partially or fully ice covered, and likely fully ice covered, respectively.

<b>ice_dyn_f</b>		
	type	int4
	fill_value	-999
	long_name	dynamical ice cover flag
	standard_name	status_flag
	source	Yang et al. (2020)
	flag_meanings	no_ice_cover partial_ice_cover full_ice_cover
	flag_values	0 1 2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	2
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Dynamic ice cover flag indicating whether the lake is ice-covered on the day of the observation based on analysis of external optical satellite data. Values of 0, 1, and 2 indicate that the lake is not ice covered, partially ice covered, and fully ice covered, respectively.
<b>partial_f</b>		
	type	int4
	fill_value	-999
	long_name	partially covered lake flag
	flag_meanings	covered partially_covered
	flag_values	0 1
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	1
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Flag that indicates only partial lake coverage. 0= Indicates that the observed lake is entirely covered by the swath. 1= Indicates that the observed lake is partially covered by the swath.
<b>xovr_cal_q</b>		
	type	int4
	fill_value	-999
	long_name	quality of the cross-over calibration
	short_name	height_cor_xover_qual
	flag_meanings	good suspect bad
	flag_values	0 1 2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	2
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Quality of the cross-over calibration. A value of 0 indicates a nominal measurement, 1 indicates a suspect measurement, and 2 indicates a bad measurement.
<b>Geophysical References</b>		
<b>geoid_hght</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	geoid height
	standard_name	geoid_height_above_reference_ellipsoid
	source	EGM2008
	institution	GSFC
	units	m
	valid_min	-150
	valid_max	150
	tag_basic_expert	Basic

	comment	Lake-averaged geoid model height above the reference ellipsoid. The value is computed from the EGM2008 geoid model with a correction to refer the value to the mean tide system (i.e., includes the zero-frequency permanent tide).
<b>solid_tide</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	solid Earth tide height
	source	Cartwright and Taylor (1971) and Cartwright and Edden (1973)
	units	m
	valid_min	-1
	valid_max	1
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Solid-Earth (Body) tide height, averaged over the lake. The zero-frequency permanent tide component is not included.
<b>load_tidef</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	geocentric load tide height (FES)
	source	FES2014b (Carrere et al., 2016)
	institution	LEGOS/CNES
	units	m
	valid_min	-0.2
	valid_max	0.2
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Geocentric load tide height. The effect of the ocean tide loading of the Earth's crust. This value is used to compute wse.
<b>load_tideg</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	geocentric load tide height (GOT)
	source	GOT4.10c (Ray, 2013)
	institution	GSFC
	units	m
	valid_min	-0.2
	valid_max	0.2
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Geocentric load tide height. The effect of the ocean tide loading of the Earth's crust.
<b>pole_tide</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	height of pole tide
	units	m
	source	Wahr (1985) and Desai et al. (2015)
	valid_min	-0.2
	valid_max	0.2
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Geocentric pole tide height. The sum total of the contribution from the solid-Earth (body) pole tide height and the load pole tide height (i.e., the effect of the ocean pole tide loading of the Earth's crust).
<b>Geophysical Range Corrections</b>		
<b>dry_trop_c</b>		
	type	float

	fill_value	-99999999999
	long_name	dry tropospheric vertical correction to WSE
	source	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting
	institution	ECMWF
	units	m
	valid_min	-3.0
	valid_max	-1.5
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Equivalent vertical correction due to dry troposphere delay. Adding the reported correction to the reported lake WSE results in the uncorrected lake WSE.
<b>wet_trop_c</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-99999999999
	long_name	wet tropospheric vertical correction to WSE
	source	European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasting
	institution	ECMWF
	units	m
	valid_min	-1
	valid_max	0
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Equivalent vertical correction due to wet troposphere delay. Adding the reported correction to the reported lake WSE results in the uncorrected lake WSE.
<b>iono_c</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-99999999999
	long_name	ionospheric vertical correction to WSE
	source	Global Ionosphere Maps
	institution	JPL
	units	m
	valid_min	-0.5
	valid_max	0
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Equivalent vertical correction due to ionosphere delay. Adding the reported correction to the reported lake WSE results in the uncorrected lake WSE.
<b>Instrument Corrections</b>		
<b>xovr_cal_c</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-99999999999
	long_name	crossover calibration height correction
	units	m
	valid_min	-10
	valid_max	10
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Equivalent height correction estimated from KaRIn crossover calibration. The correction is applied during processing before geolocation in terms of roll, baseline dilation, etc., but reported as an equivalent height correction. The correction term should be subtracted from the reported WSE to obtain the uncorrected WSE.
<b>Prior Lake Database (PLD) Information</b>		
<b>lake_name</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	name(s) of the lake

	comment	Name(s) of the lake, retrieved from Open Street Map, IGN Carthage, GLWD and vMap0 databases. The different names are separated by semicolons.
<b>p_res_id</b>		
	type	int9
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	reservoir Id from GRanD database
	source	<a href="https://doi.org/10.1890/100125">https://doi.org/10.1890/100125</a>
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	10000
	tag_basic_expert	Expert
	comment	Reservoir ID from the Global Reservoir and Dam (GRanD) database. 0=The lake is not a registered reservoir.

### 5.3 PLD-oriented lake file attribute description

The attributes of the PLD-oriented lake shapefile are the same as those of the observation-oriented lake product described in Section 5.2 (Table 9), except for the inversion of the order and roles of *obs\_id* and *lake\_id*, and the fact that *overlap* is computed the other way around, as described in Table 10, as well the inclusion of additional attributes related to storage change specified in Table 11. Note that all measurement attributes in this shapefile are aggregated over PLD lakes rather than observed lakes. For records corresponding to unobserved PLD lakes covered by the granule, the attributes are set to the fill values (except for those containing PLD information), and they have no polygon (empty shape).

**Table 10. Attributes of the PLD-oriented lake shapefile of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product that are MODIFIED with respect to the same attributes in the observation-oriented lake shapefile.**

<b>Lake ID</b>		
<b>lake_id</b>		
	type	text
	long_name	lake ID from prior database
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Identifier of prior lake from the prior lake database. The format of the identifier is CBBNNNNNT, where C=continent code, B=basin code, N=lake counter within the basin, T=type.
<b>reach_id</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	list of reach ID(s) intersecting this lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	If this PLD lake is a connected lake, this attribute provides the list of the identifiers of the river reaches (i.e. reach_id attribute in the PRD) of type "Connected lake" (i.e. ending with digit 3) that are related to it.
<b>obs_id</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	Identifier(s) of the observed lake(s)
	tag_basic_expert	Basic

	comment	List of identifiers of observed lakes that intersect the prior lake given by lake_id. Unique observation identifier within the product. The format of the identifier is CBBTTTSNNNNNN, where C=continent code, B=basin code, TTT=tile number within the pass, S=swath side, N=lake counter within the tile. The different identifiers are separated by semicolons.
<b>overlap</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	fraction of prior lake covered by each observed lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	List of fractions of prior lake area covered by each observed lake identified in obs_id attribute. The different fractions are separated by semicolons and refer one-to-one to the identifiers listed in the obs_id attribute.
<b>n_overlap</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	number of observed lake(s) intersecting the PLD lake
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Number of observed lake(s) intersecting the PLD lake. This attribute provides the number of elements in obs_id and overlap attributes.

**Table 11. Attributes of the PLD-oriented lake shapefile of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product that are NOT in the observation-oriented lake shapefile.**

<b>Storage change</b>		
<b>ds1_l</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	storage change computed with direct approach and linear model for bathymetry
	units	km <sup>3</sup>
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Storage change relative to the first SWOT valid measurement; computed with the direct approach, and considering a linear model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds1_l_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	uncertainty in storage change computed with direct approach and linear model for bathymetry
	units	km <sup>3</sup>
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Uncertainty in storage change computed with the direct approach, and considering a linear model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds1_q</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	storage change computed with direct approach and quadratic model for bathymetry
	units	km <sup>3</sup>
	valid_min	-1000

	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Storage change relative to the first SWOT measurement; computed with the direct approach, and considering a quadratic method for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds1_q_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	uncertainty in storage change computed with direct approach and quadratic model for bathymetry
	units	km^3
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Uncertainty in storage change computed with the direct approach, and considering a quadratic model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds2_l</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	storage change computed with incremental approach and linear model for bathymetry
	units	km^3
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Storage change relative to the first SWOT valid measurement; computed with the incremental approach, and considering a linear model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds2_l_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	uncertainty in storage change computed with incremental approach and linear model for bathymetry
	units	km^3
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Uncertainty in storage change computed with the incremental approach, and considering a linear model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds2_q</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	storage change computed with incremental approach and quadratic model for bathymetry
	units	km^3
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Storage change relative to the first SWOT measurement; computed with the incremental approach, and considering a quadratic method for the lake bathymetry.
<b>ds2_q_u</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999

	long_name	uncertainty in storage change computed with incremental approach and quadratic model for bathymetry
	units	km^3
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Uncertainty in storage change computed with the incremental approach, and considering a quadratic model for the lake bathymetry.
<b>Prior Lake Database (PLD) Information</b>		
<b>p_lon</b>		
	type	float
	long_name	longitude of the deepest point of the prior lake
	units	degrees_east
	valid_min	-180.0
	valid_max	180.0
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Longitude of the deepest point of the prior lake.
<b>p_lat</b>		
	type	float
	long_name	latgitude of the deepest point of the prior lake
	units	degrees_north
	valid_min	-90.0
	valid_max	90.0
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Latitude of the deepest point of the prior lake.
<b>p_ref_wse</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	reference water surface elevation
	units	m
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	100000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Reference water surface elevation from the prior lake database, used to compute storage change.
<b>p_ref_area</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	reference water surface area
	units	km^2
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	500000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Reference water surface area from the prior lake database, used to compute storage change.
<b>p_date_t0</b>		
	type	text
	fill_value	"no_data"
	long_name	reference date for the storage change attributes
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Reference date from the prior lake database for the storage change attributes, corresponding to the date of the first valid measurement. The format is YYYY-MM-DD.

<b>p_ds_t0</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	reference storage change
	units	km <sup>3</sup>
	valid_min	-1000
	valid_max	1000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Reference storage change from the prior lake database used to translate the storage change values initially computed with respect to the p_ref_wse and p_ref_area of the PLD lake, to the storage change relative to p_date_t0.
<b>p_storage</b>		
	type	float
	fill_value	-999999999999
	long_name	maximum water storage
	units	km <sup>3</sup>
	valid_min	0
	valid_max	30000
	tag_basic_expert	Basic
	comment	Maximum water storage value from the prior lake database, computed between the minimum (or ground when a bathymetry is available) and maximum observed levels of the lake.

## 5.4 Observation-oriented unassigned features file attribute description

The attributes of the observation-oriented unassigned features shapefile are the same as those of the observation-oriented lake product described in Section 5.2, except that the following attributes listed in Table 9 are NOT included:

- Lake ID: *lake\_id*, *overlap*, *n\_overlap*, *reach\_id*
- Prior Lake Database (PLD) Information: *lake\_name*, *p\_res\_id*

## 6 References

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## Appendix A. **Acronyms**

ATBD	Algorithm Theoretical Basis Document
CNES	Centre National d'Études Spatiales
CRID	Composite Release Identifier
ECMWF	European Center for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts
GSFC	Goddard Space Flight Center
HR	High Rate
JPL	Jet Propulsion Laboratory
KaRIn	Ka-band Radar Interferometer
LR	Low Rate
L2	Level 2
PIXC	Pixel Cloud
PLD	Prior Lake Database
PRD	Prior River Database
RD	Reference Document
SAS	Science Algorithm Software
SDS	Science Data System
SP	Single Pass
SWOT	Surface Water Ocean Topography
TAI	International Atomic Time
TBC	To Be Confirmed
TBD	To Be Determined
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
XML	Extensible Markup Language

WSE

Water Surface Elevation

## Appendix B. Description of XML files

In the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product, the use of the term “attributes” usually follows the shapefile nomenclature in referring to the variables associated with each feature in the .shp file. Other than in this appendix, this term should not be confused with attributes as typically used in the context of netCDF files. Rather, the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product uses the term “attributes” in reference to the contents of the .dbf file, and uses the term “metadata” in reference to characteristics of each attribute of the entire shapefile.

However, the Esri shapefile format adopted for the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product does not have a standard representation for including such metadata. The L2\_HR\_LakeSP product therefore includes metadata in an extensible markup language (XML) file that is produced alongside each shapefile (Section 3.2). That is, for each of the 3 shapefiles composing the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product, a .shp.xml (Table 1) XML file conveys the information provided in Tables 8 and 9 of this document.

These XML files contain metadata about the entire shapefile (the equivalent of “global attributes” in a netCDF file). The global metadata fields are provided in Table 8. Examples include the starting and ending times of the data contained in the shapefile, and the geospatial bounding box coordinates encompassing the data represented in the shapefile.

These XML files also contain metadata fields, as listed in Table 7, pertaining to specific attributes in the shapefile (the equivalent of per-variable “attributes” in a netCDF file). The XML files effectively reproduce the specific metadata fields pertaining to attributes that are provided in Table 9 and 10, and listed in Section 5.4 of this document. Examples include metadata such as the allowable minimum and maximum values of an attribute, and the associated units.

Note, however, that the XML files use the word “attributes” in element names following netCDF conventions to refer to metadata fields, not to variables in the shapefile .dbf file. This mix of nomenclature should be clear in context, as variables and metadata fields are named explicitly in the XML file.

These XML files are organized as follows. Following a standard XML declaration, a single top-level XML element *swot\_product* always contains exactly two elements *global\_attributes* and *attributes*. The *global\_attributes* element gives metadata that apply to the entire shapefile, whereas the *attributes* element gives metadata for each shapefile attribute. Child elements of the *global\_attributes* element represent individual global metadata fields, with the metadata values as the XML contents between start- and end-tags that define the name of the global metadata field. The *attributes* element has a child element for each attribute of the corresponding shapefile being described; the start- and end-tags of each of these per-attribute elements correspond to the name of the attribute. Each per-attribute element has child elements that give the metadata fields applicable to that attribute, with the metadata values as the contents between start- and end-tags that define the name of the per-attribute metadata field. Not all attributes are associated with the same set of metadata fields. Children of a given element are always unique. While most metadata values will always be the same across different granules of the L2\_HR\_LakeSP product, some fields do vary between granules (e.g., those involving leap seconds).

Examples are shown below for several XML elements of the *\_Obs.shp.xml* file. The attribute-specific metadata differs between the observation-oriented (*\_Obs*), PLD-oriented

(\_Prior) and unassigned features (\_Unassigned) XML files where Table 9 and 10, and elements in Section 5.4 differ. Note that the XML comments in the example below are included here for descriptive purposes but would not exist in the actual XML file.

```
<swot_product>
  <global_attributes>

    <!-- Global metadata listed in Table 8 here -->
    <!-- Example entries: -->

    <title>Level 2 KaRIn High Rate Lake Single Pass Vector
    Product - Obs</title>
    <continent>EU</continent>. <!-- From Table 3 -->

    <!-- Other global metadata -->

  <!-- End of global metadata -->
</global_attributes>

<attributes>

  <!-- Individual entries for each attribute in Table 9 -->
  <!-- Each attribute uses metadata fields from Table 7 -->
  <!-- Example entries for the reach XML file: -->

  <obs_id>
    <type>text</type>
    <long_name>identifier of the observed lake</long_name>
    <tag_basic_expert>Basic</tag_basic_expert>
    <comment>Unique lake identifier within the product. The
    format of the identifier is CBBTTTSNNNNNN, where
    C=continent code, B=basin code, TTT=tile number within the
    pass, S=swath side, N=lake counter within the
    tile.</comment>
  </obs_id>

  <wse>
    <type>float</type>
    <fill_value>-999999999999</fill_value>
    <long_name>lake-averaged water surface elevation with
    respect to the geoid</long_name>
    <units>m</units>
    <valid_min>-1000</valid_min>
    <valid_max>100000</valid_max>
    <tag_basic_expert>Basic</tag_basic_expert>
    <comment>Lake-averaged water surface elevation, relative to
    the provided model of the geoid (geoid_hght), with
    corrections for media delays (wet and dry troposphere, and
    ionosphere), crossover correction, and tidal effects
    (solid_tide, load_tidef, and pole_tide) applied.</comment>
  </wse>
</attributes>
</swot_product>
```

```
</wse>

<!-- Metadata fields for other attributes in Table 9 -->

<!-- End of attributes from Table 9 -->
</attributes>
</swot_product>
```

There are a variety of options to display the XML content. For example, many browsers can display XML content directly. Another option is to use XSLT (eXtensible Stylesheet Language Transformations) to transform XML into Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) for a more convenient visualization of the XML content within a browser. To perform this conversion with XSLT, there is a tool named “xsltproc” (e.g., <http://www.xmlsoft.org/XSLT/xsltproc.html>) that can be used to convert the XML files into HTML. For example, to convert the \_Obs XML file on a Linux platform with this tool use the command line:

```
xsltproc _Obs.shp.xml _Obs.shp.xml > _Obs.shape.html,
```

where \_Obs.shp.xml is an XSLT style sheet of the user’s choosing. An example of a \_Obs.shp.xml style sheet that a user might choose to use is provided below.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<xsl:stylesheet version="1.0"
xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform">
<xsl:variable name="prodtitle" select="swot_product/title"/>
<xsl:template match="swot_product">
  <html>
  <head>
    <title><xsl:value-of select="$prodtitle"/></title>
    <style type='text/css'>
      caption {
        font-weight: bold;
        text-align: center;
      }
      h1 {
        text-align: center;
      }
      th.headcolor {
        background-color: #A9D0F5;
      }
      td.attrcolor {
        background-color: #A9D0F5;
      }
    </style>
  </head>
  <body>
  <br>
  </br>
  <h1><xsl:value-of select="$prodtitle"/></h1>
```

```
<br>
</br>
<xsl:for-each select="global_attributes">
  <table border="1" width="100%" bgcolor="#ffffff" cellspacing="0"
cellpadding="2">
  <caption>Global Metadata of <xsl:value-of
select="$prodtitle"/></caption>
  <tbody>
    <tr>
      <th class="headcolor">Item</th>
      <th class="headcolor">Value</th>
    </tr>
    <xsl:for-each select="*">
      <tr>
        <td>
          <xsl:value-of select="name()"/>
        </td>
        <td>
          <xsl:value-of select="node()"/>
        </td>
      </tr>
    </xsl:for-each>
  </tbody>
</table>
</xsl:for-each>
<br>
</br>
<br>
</br>
<xsl:for-each select="attributes">
  <table border="1" width="100%" bgcolor="#ffffff" cellspacing="0"
cellpadding
="2">
  <caption>Attributes of <xsl:value-of
select="$prodtitle"/></caption>
  <tbody>
    <xsl:for-each select="*">
      <tr>
        <td colspan="3" class="attrcolor">
          <xsl:value-of select="name()"/>
        </td>
      </tr>
      <xsl:for-each select="*">
        <tr>
          <td width="40">
            </td>
          <td>
            <xsl:value-of select="name()"/>
          </td>
          <td>
            <xsl:value-of select="node()"/>
          </td>
        </tr>
      </xsl:for-each>
    </xsl:for-each>
  </tbody>
</table>
</xsl:for-each>
```

```
        </tr>
      </xsl:for-each>
    </xsl:for-each>
  </tbody>
</table>
</xsl:for-each>
</body>
</html>
</xsl:template>
</xsl:stylesheet>
```